



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

Whereas: More than a million adults in the U.S. identify as transgender or nonbinary, totaling an estimated 1.6% of the adult population according to a recent Pew Research Center survey; and

Whereas: Each year, people and organizations around the country participate in Transgender Awareness Week Nov. 13-19 to help raise visibility and awareness of transgender communities and address the issues they face, including prejudice, discrimination and violence; and

Whereas: First officially recognized in 1999 after the murder of Rita Hester, a transgendered Black woman, Transgender Day of Remembrance on Nov. 20 is an annual vigil that takes place around the world to honor and remember all transgender and gender non-conforming community members lost to violence in the current year; and

Whereas: As of the writing of this proclamation, at least 25 transgender and gender non-conforming people in the U.S., the vast majority being Black and Latina trans women, were killed by violence this year, according to the Human Rights Campaign, which began tracking fatal violence against transgender individuals in 2013; and

Whereas: The City of Bellevue joins transgender people and their allies to educate the public about who transgender people are and the urgent need for resources to support and protect this community. City staff gather each year to recognize Transgender Day of Remembrance and read the names of transgender community members lost in our nation to violence.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, mayor of Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim **Nov 13-19, 2023**, as:

Transgender Awareness Week

in Bellevue, and encourage all residents to recognize Transgender Remembrance Day on Nov. 20 and join ceremonies and activities to raise awareness for transgender issues while reflecting on the unique identities and lives within this community.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue