



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

Whereas: Bellevue is one of the most diverse cities in Washington, with a strong Jewish community that serves an important part of the city's fabric, including members at Temple B'nai Torah and Temple De Hirsch Sinai in Bellevue contributing in many ways to the strength and resilience of our community; and

Whereas: Throughout our history, Jewish people have helped advance society through science, politics, journalism, arts and entertainment, literature, commerce, human rights and more; and

Whereas: This community of neighbors, friends, colleagues and family members has offered much in the way of innovation, creativity, and lasting contributions to our common knowledge, but has also historically been subject to discrimination, hatred and violence that we continue to struggle with today; and

Whereas: Antisemitism impacts millions of Jews and people of all backgrounds around the globe. The Anti-Defamation League tracks antisemitic incidents, and in 2023 tabulated 8,873 antisemitic incidents across the United States, representing a 140% increase from the number of incidents recorded in 2022 and is the highest number on record since they began tracking antisemitic incidents in 1979; and

Whereas: Bellevue strongly stands against hate, bias or violence based on race, nationality, gender, disability, or religion and encourages victims or witnesses of antisemitism or hate in Bellevue to report it to Bellevue Police; and

Whereas: As supporters of our Jewish community, the City Council proclaimed in 2022 our condemnation of antisemitism and remains committed to our vision of welcoming the world and recognizing our diversity as a key strength; and

Whereas: We are pleased to recognize and celebrate the resilience, faith and heritage of this community, whose values, culture and contributions have shaped our culture through the years and will continue to do so into the future.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as:

Jewish American Heritage Month

in Bellevue and encourage all organizations and members of the community to learn more about the heritage and contributions of our Jewish community and work together to end hate and antisemitism.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue