



# City of Bellevue | Proclamation

**Whereas:** The City of Bellevue celebrates the rich cultural diversity that strengthens our community and recognizes the important contributions of Sikh Americans to the fabric of our city and nation; and

**Whereas:** Sikhism, founded over 550 years ago, is one of the world's major religions and is rooted in the values of equality, selfless service, justice and faith; and

**Whereas:** April is recognized as Sikh Heritage Month, a time to honor the vibrant traditions, spiritual heritage and significant contributions of the Sikh community, as well as to acknowledge their resilience and ongoing efforts to advance equity and inclusion; and

**Whereas:** this month also includes the celebration of Vaisakhi, one of the most significant holidays in Sikhism, commemorating the founding of the Khalsa in 1699 and celebrated as Khalsa Day, marking a time of renewal, community and shared identity; and

**Whereas:** Sikh Heritage Month offers an opportunity to reflect on the core principles of Sikhism, including the pursuit of truth, service to others and the protection of human rights, which align with Bellevue's vision of being a welcoming city where all people feel they belong; and

**Whereas:** King County is home to one of the largest Sikh communities in the United States, reflecting the deep roots and continued growth of the Sikh community in our region; and

**Now, therefore, I, Mo Malakoutian, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim April 2026, as**

## **Sikh Heritage Month**

in Bellevue and encourage all residents to join in celebrating the history, faith and contributions of the Sikh community and to continue building a more inclusive and connected community.

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Mo Malakoutian, Mayor  
City of Bellevue