Whereas: Muslims represent a vibrant part of Bellevue's diverse community, with the

Bellevue Masjid, also known as Islamic Center of Eastside, serving more than

1,000 people; and

Whereas: The Muslim American community, through the Bellevue Masjid and the

Muslim Association of Puget Sound, provides support and assistance to local

people in need through an array of charitable contributions; and

Whereas: The Muslim American community in Bellevue advances our society in the

fields of medicine, technology, hospitality, government, and transportation;

and

Whereas: Muslim Americans in Bellevue include immigrants and refugees from

Afghanistan, Somalia, Senegal, Syria, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Iraq, Iran, Vietnam,

Egypt Pakistan, Palestine, India and Gambia; and

Whereas: Muslim Americans are affected by police brutality, racial inequity, housing

unaffordability, financial exclusion, lack of access to adequate health care

and Islamophobic policies; and

Whereas: Despite many hardships, Bellevue's Muslim community has remained

resilient and grounded in family values, a strong work ethic and a dedication

to education and diversity in culture and creed.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, mayor of Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of

the City Council, do hereby proclaim July 2022 as

Muslim American Heritage Month

in Bellevue, recognizing and celebrating the many contributions of the Muslim American community to our city.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor City of Bellevue