Whereas: East King County cities including Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland, Redmond, and Sammamish,

recognize adequate nutrition as a basic need for each resident; and

Whereas: Food insecurity occurs when individuals or households lack reliable access to affordable,

nutritious food; and

Whereas: With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, food insecurity has continued to surpass pre-

pandemic levels in King County; and

Whereas: Food needs are one of the most common reasons for King County residents to call social

service providers; and

Whereas: Black and Hispanic populations are disproportionately represented among people seeking

food assistance in Bellevue, King County and many places across the country; and

Whereas: We commend the food banks, emergency and hot meal programs, and hundreds of

volunteers working with our cities, local faith organizations, and social service agencies to

stem the rising hunger needs; and

Whereas: We encourage Bellevue community members, if they are able, to donate or volunteer at a

local food bank or human services partner agency and help fight the ongoing local

problem of hunger.

**Now, therefore, I,** Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim September 2022 as:

## **Hunger Action and Awareness Month**

in the City of Bellevue, and strongly urge all residents to join area food banks in "sharing what they can" to support our neighbors who are hungry.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue