



# City of Bellevue | Proclamation

- Whereas:** Bellevue is one of the most diverse cities in Washington, and Jewish people are an important part of the city's fabric, with members at Temple B'nai Torah and Temple De Hirsch Sinai in Bellevue contributing in many ways to the community; and
- Whereas:** According to the Anti-Defamation League, in 2018, reports of antisemitic incidents were up 60% in Washington state from the previous year. And, in Seattle, reports of hate crimes and incidents were up nearly 400% from 2012 to 2018; and
- Whereas:** Hate and bias are not acceptable in our community. The City Council remains committed to our vision of welcoming the world and recognizing our diversity as a key strength for the city and our character; and
- Whereas:** Any victims of antisemitism in Bellevue are encouraged to report such incidents – as hate crimes or bias-related events – so that Bellevue police can respond to and track them; and
- Whereas:** The City Council supports and adopts the May 26, 2016 International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's working definition of antisemitism, which helps protect all people in Bellevue from acts of hate and bigotry; and
- Whereas:** The IHRA working definition has proven to be an essential tool for government and law enforcement agencies in the United States as they work to identify contemporary manifestations of antisemitism and both respond directly to it and provide training and education about it; and

**Now, therefore, I,** Lynne Robinson, mayor of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim our condemnation of antisemitism, as defined by the IHRA, as supporters and allies of our Jewish community.

Bellevue strongly stands against hate, bias or violence based on race, nationality, gender, disability, or religion, and I urge all residents to come together and support our Jewish neighbors.

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Lynne Robinson, Mayor  
City of Bellevue