Whereas: The city of Bellevue and the nation continue to be influenced by the extraordinary cultural,

ethnic, linguistic and religious diversity of people in our communities, including a significant

Hindu American population; and

Whereas: There are an estimated one billion Hindus worldwide, and approximately 3.4 million Hindu

Americans living throughout the nation; and

Whereas: Hindu Americans in Bellevue represent a variety of ethnic backgrounds, including

individuals of Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Malaysian, Indonesian, Afghani, Nepali,

Bhutanese, Sri Lankan, Fijian, Caribbean, and European descent; and

Whereas: Bellevue and our country have greatly benefited from the many innovations and

contributions of Hindu Americans, including the Vedanta philosophy, Ayurvedic medicine, classical Indian art, dance, music, meditation, yoga, literature, and community services; and

Whereas: Many Hindu immigrants come to the United States as students, adults in search of economic

opportunities, or to unite with family members, while others have arrived in this country

after facing religious persecution in their countries of origin; and

Whereas: The City of Bellevue is proud to recognize the positive influence of Hindu Americans on

Bellevue's economic vitality, growth and wellbeing.

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

Hindu American Awareness and Appreciation Month

in Bellevue and acknowledge the significant contributions made by residents of Hindu heritage to our city, and seek to increase awareness and understanding of the Hindu American community.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue