



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

Whereas: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. devoted his life to serving others, reminding us that "human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle -- the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals"; and

Whereas: Many inequities existing during Dr. King's lifetime still persist today, as demonstrated through the disparate outcomes of the global pandemic and continued social and racial injustices of our time; and

Whereas: When Dr. King spoke at the March on Washington, he described a "fierce urgency of now" to take action toward equality – more than 50 years later, his words have an enduring relevance in our time; and

Whereas: On Martin Luther King Jr. Day we honor and celebrate this civil rights icon and visionary leader whose resistance to injustices including racial segregation, economic disparities, employment discrimination, and denial of the right to vote raised awareness and spurred action to expand access to opportunity and end structural inequities for all people; and

Whereas: The City of Bellevue is committed to ensuring access, equity, inclusion, and opportunity, sharing the belief that the time is now to act with swift urgency to deliver on the promise of Dr. King's mission to foster a beloved community; and

Whereas: We honor Dr. King's legacy with an annual local celebration and health fair and a national day of service to remind us that we are stronger when we march forward, together.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim **Jan. 16, 2023**, as:

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

in Bellevue and urge all residents to visit www.MLKDay.gov to learn more about service opportunities across our country and to visit www.BellevueWA.gov, where they can register to attend a virtual celebration and health fair in commemoration of Dr. King's legacy as we work together to build a more just, peaceful and prosperous society for all.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue