



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

Whereas: National Black Business Month was founded in 2004 as an initiative to recognize Black-owned businesses, highlight the vital contributions of Black-owned businesses to our country, and to encourage their continued development; and

Whereas: Black-owned businesses account for approximately 2 million companies, or 10 percent of U.S. businesses, and about 30 percent of all minority-owned businesses according to the U.S. Census Bureau; and

Whereas: Black-owned businesses are essential to flourishing communities and culture as they support families and provide careers within the Bellevue community; and

Whereas: Throughout history, despite facing systemic racism, redlining and even extreme violence, Black businesses continue to grow and thrive throughout the nation; and

Whereas: Black-owned businesses serve as a representation of perseverance and success, often play an active role in community development and reinvestment, and can have a significant impact on social and political change; and

Whereas: Bellevue's Black-owned businesses play an important role in spurring economic development by providing access to wealth-building resources for current and future generations of Black families; and

WHEREAS, The Bellevue City Council strongly proclaims that diversity is our strength, and the success of Black-owned businesses is vital to our city's strength and success.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, mayor of Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim August 2024, as:

Black Business Month

in Bellevue and encourage our community members and workforce to support Black-owned businesses in our city.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue