



MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 14, 2018

TO: Mayor Chelminiak and City Councilmembers

FROM: Mac Cummins, Director
Arthur Sullivan, ARCH Program Manager
Janet Lewine, Associate Planner
Department of Planning and Community Development

SUBJECT: Affordable Housing Week

The City of Bellevue recognizes that all people should have access to safe, healthy and affordable housing. Among the Council's priorities is to "execute Phase One of the Affordable Housing Strategy Implementation Program".

The City has many partners in addressing affordable housing, including member jurisdictions of A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH), the King County Housing Authority, the faith community, and local housing nonprofits.

The issues of affordable housing and homelessness have hit a crisis point in our area. Across King County, 127,000 households are paying more than half their income for housing costs, and 5,485 individuals were found sleeping outdoors during the 2017 Point in Time Count. These challenges are touching every corner, every city, and every school district of King County. In the Bellevue School District this year 253 students were identified as homeless.

Bellevue participates in local and regional efforts to increase affordable housing including ARCH, the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force and the One Table effort to address the root causes of homelessness. By increasing attention to this issue and by working together, across jurisdictions and across sectors, our objective is to turn the tide to ensure all people have access to a safe, healthy, affordable home.

Bellevue has adopted and is working to implement the Affordable Housing Strategy, and we recognize the need to increase affordable housing by declaring **May 14-18 Affordable Housing Week**. Through Affordable Housing Week, we are working with our partners to elevate understanding of the need for affordable housing and discuss potential solutions.

Attachment: Proclamation