Whereas: Parks and recreation programs are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the

quality of life in our community; and

Whereas: These programs partner with the community, providing places for people of all cultures to

gather, celebrate, and volunteer their time and talents to make a difference; and

Whereas: Parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities and aid in the prevention

of chronic disease, and improve the mental and emotional health of all residents; and

Whereas: They provide people with disabilities opportunities and choices for recreation, socialization,

and learning so they can participate successfully in the life of our community; and

Whereas: Parks and recreation programs also enhance a community's economic prosperity through

increased property values, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses,

and crime reduction; and

Whereas: Our parks and natural areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a

place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

Whereas: Bellevue has long been seen as a "city in a park," and parks and natural recreation areas are

fundamental not only to the ecological beauty of our community, but also to its environmental wellbeing by improving air and water quality, protecting groundwater,

preventing flooding, and providing vegetative buffers and habitat for wildlife.

**Now, therefore, I,** Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of **July 2020** as:

## Parks and Recreation Month

in Bellevue, and urge everyone to enjoy and recognize the many benefits of our parks, natural areas, trails and recreation facilities.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue