



## A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

### Proclaiming June 2022 as "Pride Month" in Kirkland

**WHEREAS**, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, and asexual people are our family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers who are part of and contribute meaningfully to our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Gay Pride events are held in June to commemorate the June 28, 1969, Stonewall riots that were sparked in response to ongoing police harassment of New York's gay community, and were also the catalyst for establishing safe places for gays and lesbians to be open about their sexual orientation without fear of being arrested or jailed; and

**WHEREAS**, the fight for dignity, equality and inclusion for LGBTQIA+ people has been hard-fought in the streets and courts of this country; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2001 the City of Kirkland added "sexual orientation" to its Affirmative Action Policy and in 2006 the State of Washington added protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity to the Washington law; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2017 the City of Kirkland added a new chapter 3.18 to the Kirkland Municipal Code related to sustaining a safe, welcoming, and inclusive community for all residents regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, income or economic status, political affiliation, military status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, or sensory ability; and

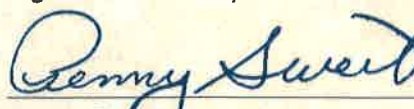
**WHEREAS**, to protect the health of the community during the COVID-19 pandemic, pride events across the country, like most other large gatherings, have been cancelled or are being held virtually, resulting in the need to ensure that Pride Month, and the ongoing fight for dignity and equality, is not forgotten in the midst of these challenging times; and

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative that young people in our community, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression, feel valued, safe, empowered, and supported by their peers and community leaders;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, Mayor Penny Sweet, on behalf of the City Council, in honor of the anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, do hereby proclaim June 2022 as "Pride Month" in Kirkland, Washington, to celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, and asexual members of our community, and as an affirmation of the City's commitment to protect and serve everyone who resides, works, or visits Kirkland without discrimination, as well as its belief in the dignity, equality, and civil rights of all people.



Signed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022

  
Penny Sweet Mayor