



# A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

## Proclaiming June 2024 as "Pride Month" in Kirkland

**WHEREAS**, Pride Month is dedicated to celebration and commemoration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, and asexual plus (LGBTQIA+) people; who are our family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers; and 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**, Marsha P. Johnson, a Black transgender woman, and Sylvia Rivera, an Afro Latina transgender woman, were activists vital to the gay rights movement that would be the catalyst of LGBTQIA+ rights nationwide; 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**, to celebrate Pride the City of Kirkland hosted a Pride Flag Raising event for their LGBTQIA+ staff on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, to extend the celebration to the LGBTQIA+ community, the City for the first time installed a Pride crosswalk, modeled after the intersex-inclusive progress flag, symbolizing the wholeness and completeness of all LGBTQIA+ people, and hosted an unveiling event at the entrance of Marina Park; and

**WHEREAS**, the City remains prideful through its continued maintenance and protection of the Pride crosswalk against vandalism and defends the human right for people to love who they choose; and

**WHEREAS**, also for the second year, the Totem Lake Connector Bridge in Kirkland is displaying rainbow lighting beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>; 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 Kelli Curtis, on behalf of the City Council, in honor of the anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, does hereby proclaim June 2024 as "Pride Month" in Kirkland, Washington, to celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, and asexual plus 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 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 2024

Kelli Curtis, Mayor

