

Proclamation

WHEREAS, November 20th marks the day of Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR), an annual observance that honors the memory of the people whose lives were lost through acts of anti-transgender violence.; and

WHEREAS, Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998. The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence since Rita Hester's death and began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance. In the legacy of Gwendolyn Ann Smith, the good fight must continue; and

WHEREAS, today, we stand united as members of the LGBTIA+ community and allies, as we honor the memories of people that have lost their lives. May it continue to invoke a renewed focus in our fight against the injustices that the trans community has suffered and continues to suffer today; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge our trans compatriots who have felt the brutish injustice of invisibility; and

WHEREAS, we raise our voices and use our physical presence to stand in solidarity with those whose voices have been suffocated by bigotry and silenced through bigoted acts of violence; and

WHEREAS, we recognize those who boldly live their beautiful and authentic truth with unwavering courage; and

WHEREAS, we reaffirm ourselves to fight for legislation to protect them from the crimes that have attempted to silence and devalue the humanity of our transgender community; and

WHEREAS, we unite, educate, and defend each other to build a community where our transgender family members, neighbors, and friends feel safe, valued, and visible.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, Washington, do hereby proclaim November 20, 2023 as:

“Transgender Day of Remembrance”

in the City of Vancouver and proclaim that Transgender persons are vital, productive, and essential part of the communities in which we all live. We see you! We are with you! You belong!



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 20th day of November 2023.

Anne McEnery-Ogle

ANNE McENERY-OGLE, MAYOR