

# City of Vancouver, Washington

## Proclamation

- WHEREAS, human trafficking involves recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for some type of labor act and/or commercial sexual exploitation; and
- WHEREAS, human trafficking involves the commercial sexual exploitation and/or labor of persons of any age where force, fraud, or coercion exist and often unequally intersect with race, class, and income; and
- WHEREAS, because there is perceived shame in what has happened, most victims do not reach out for help, or they cannot reach out for help due to circumstances, so the surrounding community is unaware of what is happening in their own neighborhoods; and
- WHEREAS, we continue to activate connections to prevent human trafficking through community partnerships and advocacy for legal changes as well as increased public awareness for what human trafficking is; and
- WHEREAS, while January 2011 marked the first National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, we continue to bring awareness to this issue until it is ended; and
- WHEREAS, the city of Vancouver remains committed to protect the rights of those who are exploited while also holding traffickers, exploiters, and buyers accountable for the harm they cause; and
- WHEREAS, this day, and this month, serves as an opportunity to recognize how everyone in the community is interconnected and plays a role to create a world where we no longer have persons bought, sold, or exploited;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, Washington, do hereby proclaim on the 22nd in January as:

### **“Human Trafficking Prevention Month”**

in Vancouver, and further resolve that the City of Vancouver stands with the Human Trafficking Task Force of Clark County, WA, to help end modern-day slavery and exploitation in our community.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 22nd day of January 2024.

*Anne McEnery-Ogle*  
ANNE McENERY-OGLE, MAYOR