

City of Vancouver, Washington **Proclamation**

- WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver has flourished with the vision and determination of local entrepreneurs who embrace bold ideas, take courageous risks, and dedicate themselves to hard work; and
- WHEREAS, entrepreneurship continues to be a powerful pathway to achieving dreams and building a better future, as evidenced by the record number of Americans starting businesses in recent years; and
- WHEREAS, small businesses make up over 99 percent of all private sector employers and are responsible for nearly two out of every three new jobs, driving opportunity and prosperity across the country; and
- WHEREAS, small businesses employ more than half of the nation's workforce and play a vital role in developing the products and services of tomorrow; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver's Community Development Block Grant program provided \$400,000 in small business assistance for culturally specific workshops and one-on-one specialized business consulting in 2024, and we are committed to providing an estimated \$300,000 for additional business assistance in 2025; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver has previously designated the month of May as Vancouver Small Business Month; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver proudly joins this national effort recognizing that Small Business Month is a time to celebrate and support small businesses, honoring their role in shaping our community and ensuring Vancouver's vibrancy for years to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, Washington, do hereby proclaim the Month of May 2025, as

“ National Small Business Month ”

in the City of Vancouver and urge all community members of Vancouver to participate in this observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 5th day of May 2025.

Anne McEnerny-Ogle

ANNE McENERNY-OGLE, MAYOR