

Mayor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, all people should have access to safe, healthy, and affordable homes; and

WHEREAS; the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines affordable housing as "as housing on which the occupant is paying no more than 30 percent of gross income for housing costs, including utilities."; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce projects that by 2044, King County needs nearly 200,000 net new housing units for households at or below 80% area median income; and

WHEREAS, studies have found that each \$100 increase in median rent results in a 15% increase in homelessness in metro areas and a 39% increase in homelessness in nearby suburbs and rural areas, and COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated many existing financial constraints for low- and moderate-income households; and

WHEREAS; everyone benefits from affordable housing, including the people who reside in these properties, their neighbors, businesses, employers, and the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the combined cost burden of housing, plus transportation, can be substantially reduced by locating affordable housing opportunities in proximity to transit; and

WHEREAS, united to raise public awareness, communities throughout King County are participating in local Affordable Housing Week efforts to inform the public of the critical need to preserve and increase affordable housing in our communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn endorses the goals, objectives, and purposes of Affordable Housing Week, and in doing so, recommits itself to ensuring that our community thrives with opportunity, and that all people live with dignity in safe, healthy, and affordable homes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nancy Backus, Mayor of the City of Auburn, do hereby proclaim the week of May 7-13, 2023, as

"Affordable Housing Week"

in the city of Auburn and urge our community to recognize the connection between health and housing organizations and explore resources to achieve and maintain affordable and responsible housing.

DATED this 1st day of May 2023


Nancy Backus, Mayor

