



PROCLAMATION

AFFORDABLE HOUSING WEEK

WHEREAS, all people should have access to safe, healthy, and affordable homes within communities that provide opportunity; and

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

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated many existing financial constraints for low- and moderate-income households; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control recognizes safe, healthy, and affordable housing within communities of opportunity as key social determinants of health; 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 need for affordable homes across King County prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and the number of people experiencing homelessness had remained at crisis levels; and

WHEREAS, united to raise public awareness, people, organizations, and communities throughout King County are participating in local Affordable Housing Week activities to elevate the critical need to create healthy communities with ample affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, The City of Newcastle endorses the goals, objectives, and purposes of Affordable Housing Week, and in doing so, firmly recommits itself to ensuring that our community’s recovery from the crises at hand is equitable, and that all people in Newcastle live with dignity in safe, healthy, and affordable homes;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Linda Newing, Mayor of the City of Newcastle, proclaim the week of May 7 to 13, 2023, as Affordable Housing Week in the City of Newcastle.

DATED this second day of May, 2023.



Linda Newing, Mayor, City of Newcastle