

Office of the Mayor City of Tukwila, Washington **PROCLAMATION**

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

WHEREAS, the US 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, there were Tukwila School District students identified as homeless during the 2022-23 school year; and

WHEREAS, the 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 need for affordable homes across King County and the number of people experiencing homelessness remain at crisis levels; and

WHEREAS, 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 Tukwila 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 Tukwila have the ability to live with dignity in safe, healthy, and affordable homes;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Allan Ekberg, Mayor of the City of Tukwila, do hereby proclaim May 7-13, 2023 as:

Affordable Housing Week

in the City of Tukwila and encourage all community residents to join me in recognizing this special observance.

Signed this first day of May, 2023.

Allan Ekberg, Mayor