

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Birds are critical members of Seattle's urban ecosystem, contributing to environmental health, function, and resilience. They provide wildlife viewing opportunities in Washington state with an economic output of more than \$600,000,000 in 2020. And they provide unique opportunities for experiences with wildlife close to home, which can promote connection to nature and wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, Bird populations across North America are in decline, with more than one in four birds lost since the 1970s. Of the 170 bird species that commonly occur in King County, at least 94 were found to be in overall population decline across their ranges, including species like the Steller's Jay, Varied Thrush, and Pacific Wren; and

WHEREAS, Seattle's built environment and operational practices contribute to preventable bird mortality. More than 80 bird species are documented fatally colliding with buildings in the Seattle area and additional bird mortality occurs in Seattle due to outdoor, free-roaming cats, entanglement, collisions with vehicles, pesticides including rat poisons, habitat loss, and other human-related causes; and

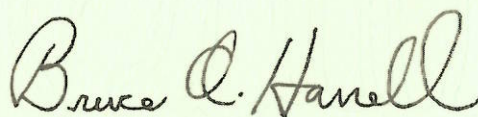
WHEREAS, From bird-safe building design to comprehensive integrated pest management to improved urban forest management, effective solutions are known and can be implemented to reduce preventable bird deaths. In fact, several West Coast cities, like Portland, San Francisco, and Vancouver, B.C., have already taken action to reduce bird-window collisions. The State of California and the City of Vancouver, B.C., have already restricted the use of some anticoagulant rodenticides. And many cities, including Seattle, are working to improve urban forest management; and

WHEREAS, Reducing urban hazards to birds and enhancing urban habitat requires cooperation and action at all levels, from individuals to small businesses to large corporations and government partners; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle recognizes the important cultural, ecological and economic roles birds play in Seattle as well as the threat birds face and encourages action among residents of Seattle to conserve and celebrate birds.

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRUCE A. HARRELL, MAYOR OF SEATTLE, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM
OCTOBER 2, 2022 THROUGH OCTOBER 8, 2022 TO BE*

BIRD-SAFE SEATTLE WEEK



Mayor Bruce A. Harrell
City of Seattle

