

City of Poulsbo

Office of Mayor Rebecca Erickson



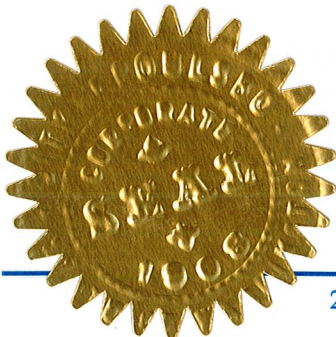
PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery, which includes but is not limited to events where one is forced, tricked, or coerced into acts of sexual exploitation, debt bondage, work/labor, and/or marriage. Traffickers often manipulate the vulnerabilities of their prospective/current victims in order to gain control of build relational/resource-based dependency. Both US citizen and non-citizen men, women, and children can be victims of human trafficking of any kind; and
- WHEREAS,** human trafficking is a billion-dollar industry occurring at epidemic levels across the world and within the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** human trafficking is a crime that is hidden in plain sight and touches all our lives through its presence within local community/business practices; and
- WHEREAS,** human trafficking goes against basic human rights, impacting the quality of choice and consent. There is a vital need to eradicate this crime everywhere that it currently thrives; and
- WHEREAS,** human trafficking is known to have many intersections with both illicit crime (arms/drugs/gangs) and legal business within the commercial sex trade. It is a crime of complex violence and dehumanization.

I, Rebecca Erickson, Mayor of the City of Poulsbo, Washington, do hereby proclaim the City of Poulsbo's commitment against human trafficking. We commit to honor this city, its people, and the surrounding communities in the following ways:

1. Invest in the prevention of human trafficking within Poulsbo and through our influence in partnerships with neighboring regions;
2. Support currently established avenues of healing for victims while continuing to strategize growth in best practices and resources available to appropriately meet victim needs;
3. Invest in practices that proactively pursue perpetrators/buyers of human trafficking in order to end the demand that allows human trafficking to flourish;
4. Use language and behaviors that honor victims of human trafficking, committing to equity and the avoidance of re-victimization.

Dated this 3rd day of January, 2020




Rebecca Erickson, Mayor