



Agenda Item: 10d
Meeting Date: March 22, 2022

PROCLAMATION
OF THE PORT OF SEATTLE COMMISSION

WHEREAS, We all have a better, more promising future when women and girls reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, Women’s History Month was first officially celebrated in the United States in 1987, and it serves to recognize and celebrate the vital role that women and girls play in American culture, history, and society; and

WHEREAS, Throughout our history, despite hardship, exclusion, and discrimination, women have strived and sacrificed for equity and equality and suffragists helped pass the 19th Amendment to the Constitution so that no American could be denied a vote based on sex; and

WHEREAS, Women of color have been at the forefront of advocacy efforts to promote freedom, equality and justice for all, but have been systemically excluded from historical narratives and marginalized from opportunities, despite advancements in policy and law; and

WHEREAS, Generations of Native American women have led on many efforts, including stewarding this land we call home and continuing to lead the fight for climate justice; and

WHEREAS, Black women have led on many efforts, including fighting to end slavery, advancing civil rights, and passing the Voting Rights Act; and

WHEREAS, Asian women have also led on many efforts, including promoting and preserving the social safety net, advancing immigrants and human rights, and addressing the issue of human trafficking locally, nationally and globally; and

WHEREAS, Latina women have also led on many efforts, including advancing worker rights and fighting inequities facing migrant populations.

WHEREAS, LGBTQIA+ women and girls are leading the fight for fairness and safety of all women, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression, and the Port is committed to promoting the safety of women and trans women across all Port facilities; and

WHEREAS, Despite the contributions of women and the progress being made, women and girls continue to experience discrimination and systemic barriers to opportunities and success, even at the Port; and

WHEREAS, Women have historically been excluded from opportunities in government, business, economics, politics, unions, and aviation and maritime are historically white and male industries and there is a concerted effort to diversify the industries; and

WHEREAS, Commissioners Toshiko Grace Hasegawa and Hamdi Mohamed are the first women of color elected to the Port Commission in its over 100 year history, and only five women total have served in this body; and

WHEREAS, The Port of Seattle continues to evaluate and improve access for women, from providing nursing suites and pods throughout SEA to conducting a women of color assessment, to taking steps to make feminine hygiene products free on port premises; and

WHEREAS, The Port's Women's Initiative Network with other employee resource groups bring attention to the inequities experienced by women employees at the Port, especially women of color, and lead the Port's work to create an inclusive and equitable environment for all who identify as women; and

WHEREAS, In an effort to advance goal five of the Century Agenda, the Port initiated an equity assessment and the women of color assessment in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Women are and have always been vital to the success of the Port of Seattle and the Port is actively working to ensure that women employees are fairly compensated and recognized, have equitable opportunities for advancement, and are an integral part of our organization's leadership; and

WHEREAS, The official recognition of the month of March as Women's History Month is one way that we pay tribute to the heroines who came before us, celebrate the contributions of our women employees, and recommit to creating a culture and community of belonging and inclusion.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Port of Seattle Commission hereby recognizes March as Women’s History Month and celebrates the contributions of all women throughout the history of the Port. We acknowledge the pressing need to continue advancing gender equity because honoring Women’s History empowers Women’s futures.

Proclaimed by the Port of Seattle Commission this 22 day of March, 2022.

Port of Seattle Commission

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