



Connected Community
Enhanced Livability
Environmental Sustainability

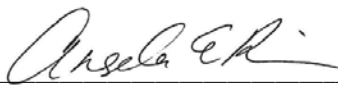
PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, the East King County cities of Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland, Redmond, and Sammamish recognize adequate nutrition as a basic goal for each community member; and
- WHEREAS, food insecurity occurs when individuals or households lack reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food; and
- WHEREAS, no parent should have to see their child hungry, no baby should be without the comfort of the feedings needed for mental and physical growth, and no elderly person's health should be jeopardized by lack of appropriate foods; and
- WHEREAS, with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the implementation of strategies to slow the spread in the community, which has led to business and school closures, food insecurity has increased in King County; and
- WHEREAS, food insecurity has almost doubled during the pandemic; and
- WHEREAS, food needs are now one of the most common reasons for King County residents' calls seeking assistance with social services this past year; and
- WHEREAS, Latinx, Black, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander populations are disproportionately represented among callers seeking food assistance; and
- WHEREAS, food banks, emergency, and hot meal programs working with our cities, local churches, social service agencies, and hundreds of volunteers are striving day in and day out to stem the rising needs, however more help is still needed; and
- WHEREAS, we believe that when residents hear of the especially desperate needs in our communities as winter approaches and the increased rates of unemployment impact people's ability to cover rental costs, leaving even less money for monthly food purchase, an outpouring of community assistance will follow;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANGELA BIRNEY, Mayor of the City of Redmond, do hereby proclaim October 31, 2020, as

MAYOR'S DAY OF CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS EXPERIENCING FOOD INSECURITIES

and strongly urge all residents to support local food banks and meal programs, Hopelink, Issaquah Food Bank, and Open Kitchen, to share what they can to nourish those who are hungry.


Angela Birney, Mayor

October 20, 2020
Date