



# A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

## Proclaiming November 24, 2018 as "Small Business Saturday" in Kirkland, Washington

**WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration, there are currently 30.2 million small businesses in the United States and small businesses have created 65.9 percent of net new jobs over the past two decades; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Kirkland strives to be a community with a diverse economic base of large and small businesses that support city revenues, and provide needed goods and services and jobs for its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Kirkland believes that small businesses are the cornerstone of our local economy as the majority of the 5,000 businesses located in Kirkland are small businesses with between one to five employees; and

**WHEREAS**, downtown Kirkland is comprised of a wealth of unique small businesses including boutique shops, restaurants, and galleries, attracting visitors and tourism revenues from around the region, nation and world while catering to the needs of residents; and

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to support small businesses by ensuring that people working in retail, restaurant, health and other sectors, have affordable places to live in our city, the City of Kirkland has developed policies that require that 10% of new multifamily residential units meet affordability standards; and

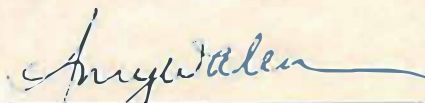
**WHEREAS**, Kirkland provides free parking to downtown employees to help downtown small businesses attract and keep employees, and to assist employees, many of whom work in retail and restaurant businesses with wages that are often on the lower end of the pay scale; and

**WHEREAS**, Kirkland's residents support shopping locally, patronizing Kirkland small businesses, and thereby helping to build a stronger, more sustainable community;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Amy Walen, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim November 24, 2018 as "Small Business Saturday" in Kirkland, Washington and encourage residents to "shop small for big returns" by patronizing small businesses in the community on one of the busiest shopping days of the season.



Signed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018

  
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Amy Walen, Mayor