

CITY OF ASHEVILLE

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the government of Asheville, North Carolina celebrates our local small business and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; according to the United State Small Business Administration, there are 30.7 million small businesses in the United States, they represent 99.7 percent of all firms with paid employees in the United States, are responsible for 64.9 percent of net new jobs created from 2000 to 2018; and

Whereas, small businesses employ 47.3 percent of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and

Whereas, 94% of consumers in the United States value the contributions small businesses make in their community; and

Whereas, 96% of consumers who plan to shop on Small Business Saturday® said the day inspires them to go to small, independently-owned retailers or restaurants that they have not been to before, or would not have otherwise tried; and

Whereas, 92% of companies planning promotions on Small Business Saturday said the day helps their business stand out during the busy holiday shopping season; and

Whereas, 59% of small business owners said Small Business Saturday contributes significantly to their holiday sales each year; and

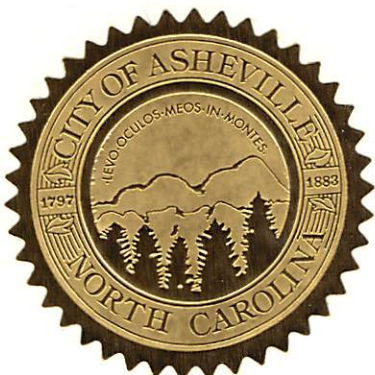
Whereas, North Carolina supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our communities; and

Whereas, advocacy groups, as well as public and private organizations, across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

Now, Therefore, I, Esther E. Manheimer, Mayor of Asheville, North Carolina do hereby proclaim, November 30, 2019, as:

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

In the City of Asheville and urge the residents of our community, and communities across the country to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.



ESTHER E. MANHEIMER
MAYOR