

# *Proclamation*

**Whereas**, the City of Bethlehem, celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 30.2 million small businesses in the United States, they represent 99.7 percent of all businesses with employees in the United States, are responsible for 65.9 percent of net new jobs created from 2000 to 2017; and

**Whereas**, small businesses employ 47.5 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**, the City of Bethlehem 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, Robert J. Donchez, Mayor of the City of Bethlehem do hereby proclaim, November 30, 2019, as:

## ***SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY***

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.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have  
Hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the  
City of Bethlehem to be affixed this 30<sup>th</sup> day of  
November, 2019

Robert J. Donchez  
Mayor