

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in the United States, 64 million adults and children have a disability and only 16,000 service dogs from accredited training programs exist nationwide, and the need is growing; and

WHEREAS, Canine Companions is a non-profit organization that enhances the lives of Renton residents with disabilities by providing expertly trained service dogs and ongoing support to ensure quality partnerships while empowering individuals to live more independent lives; and

WHEREAS, the City of Renton believes in the transformative power of the human-canine bond, and continues to work toward becoming an inclusive community in which all residents and their dogs (including service dogs) are respected; and

WHEREAS, the City of Renton operates the 4-acre Cedar River Dog Park, an off-leash dog area, welcomes dogs on leashes in most city parks, has recreation programming such as Pooch Plunge and K9 Candy Cane 5k Fun Run & Walk that includes canine friends, and welcomes service animals in our recreation buildings, including Renton Community Center, Don Persson Renton Senior Activity Center, and Highlands Neighborhood Center; and

WHEREAS, National Service Dog Month aims to educate our community about the benefits of service dogs and the laws protecting them;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Armondo Pavone, Mayor of the City of Renton, do hereby proclaim September 2023 to be

National Service Dog Month

in the City of Renton, and I encourage all residents to join me in this special observance.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Renton to be affixed this 18th day of September, 2023.

Armondo Pavone, Mayor City of Renton, Washington

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