



Armondo Pavone Mayor

# Proclamation

*Whereas*, the U.S. Constitution mandates every ten years that the population of the United States be counted; and

*Whereas*, Census data determines the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives and what funding will come to our community for educational programs and grants, public transportation, Medicare and Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), libraries, community centers, school meal programs, parks, playgrounds, recreational facilities, and more; and

*Whereas*, in the 2010 Census Renton was one of the lowest count cities in South King County and the nation with a 67.2% response rate, which equates to an estimated loss of federal and state funds of \$2,300 per person not counted per year; and

*Whereas*, the Renton 2020 Census plan, which was developed starting in July 2019, had to pivot direction dramatically just prior to Census Day on April 1, 2020 as a result of COVID-19; and

*Whereas*, Renton Census Ambassadors, Renton Census Complete Count Committee members, Renton community partners, City of Renton elected officials and staff worked creatively and collaboratively to educate and engage Renton residents to complete the Census Survey by mail, telephone or online; and

*Whereas*, as a result of the combined efforts of these dedicated groups and individuals, and all Renton residents who completed a census survey, at the end of the 2020 Census on October 15, 2020, our response rate was 75.1%, for an increase of 7.9% above the 2010 response rate, making us the highest count city in South King County;

*Now, therefore*, I, Armondo Pavone, Mayor of the City of Renton, do hereby proclaim November 9, 2020, to be

## Renton Census Champions Day

in the City of Renton, and I encourage all members of the community to join me in this special observation.

*In witness whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Renton to be affixed this 9th day of November, 2020.

Armondo Pavone, Mayor  
City of Renton, Washington

