Joint Proclamation

Whereas, people of all ages and walks of life, across America, and around the world, collectively witnessed an event of immense tragedy on September 11, 2001; and

Whereas, the events of that day instantly transformed nearly everyone’s lives, some through personal loss, and many others through an unfamiliar sense of individual and national vulnerability; and

Whereas, an unprecedented, historic bonding of Americans arose from the collective shock, unifying the country in an outpouring of national spirit, pride, selflessness, generosity, courage and service; and

Whereas, many brave people heroically, tirelessly and courageously participated in an extraordinarily difficult and dangerous rescue and recovery effort, in some cases voluntarily putting their own well-being at risk; and

Whereas, September 11 will never, and should never be just another day in the hearts and minds of all Americans; and

Whereas, September 11, 2011 will be the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks on America; and

Whereas, many citizens may wish to memorialize September 11 by engaging in, or making a plan to engage in personal and individual acts of community service, or other giving activities, as part of a solemn day of remembrance and tribute; and

Whereas, on March 19, 2009, the United States Congress passed bipartisan legislation authorizing the establishment of September 11 as a federally recognized National Day of Service and Remembrance, which President Barack Obama signed into law on April 21, 2009 and;

Whereas, the President of the United States, on September 11, 2009, issued the Patriot Day Proclamation officially and permanently designating September 11 as a National Day of Service and Remembrance, and calling upon all interested Americans to participate in this observance through moments of silence, the flying of the flag of the United States at half-staff, as well as community service and charitable activities in tribute and remembrance.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, Dan Pike, Mayor of the City of Bellingham and Pete Kremen, Whatcom County Executive, in tribute to all of the victims of 9/11 and the many who rose in service in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks, will observe September 11, 2011, the 10th Anniversary of 9/11, as a voluntary Day of Service and Remembrance, and furthermore calls upon all its citizens and organizations to consider joining in this observance and to engage in activities of tribute, solemn remembrance and charitable service.

Signed this 29th day of August 2011.

Dan Pike
Mayor, City of Bellingham

Pete Kremen
Whatcom County Executive