



CITY OF BELLINGHAM
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
KELLI LINVILLE

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS the role of cities in responding to the climate crisis was reaffirmed at the recent United Nations Conference on Climate Change in Paris; and

WHEREAS the City of Bellingham has been a leader in adopting renewable Green Power, creating solar-friendly permitting and investing in energy-saving capital improvements; and

WHEREAS the City of Bellingham has been a national leader in energy and the environment since being named the EPA's #1 Green Power Community in 2007 and remaining in the top 25 since, and has invested over \$6M in energy efficient facility upgrades, and is in the process of updating its Climate Change Action Plan, reaffirming a commitment to energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS the Bellingham community is a top contender in the Georgetown University Energy Prize (GUEP) where 50 cities are competing to see which can most effectively reduce energy use through 2016 by participating in the Bellingham Energy Prize Campaign, Solarize Whatcom and a new Green Power Challenge; and

WHEREAS the City will soon complete its installation of 3,600 LED street lights, an investment that will annually save 2,204,210 kWh of electricity and 1,814,956 pounds of CO₂; and

WHEREAS the GUEP has brought together a wide range of partners including Puget Sound Energy, the Opportunity Council, Cascade Natural Gas, RESources for Sustainable Communities, the Bellingham School District, Western Washington University, Sustainable Connections and the City of Bellingham, who have jointly been working to provide energy conservation education and deliver energy efficiency and renewable energy services to residents of the City; and

WHEREAS all Bellingham residents will benefit from energy conservation and renewable energy by contributing to the fight against climate change, reducing local energy costs, improving their homes, and creating a more resilient local energy system; and

WHEREAS the Bellingham Energy Prize Team has set the goal of achieving a total of 5,000 Bellingham Energy Prize energy saving homes over the duration of 2016; and

WHEREAS the City expects both Bellingham and Anacortes to be among the top finishers in the Georgetown Prize, but regrets to inform Anacortes that we plan to edge them out in the final months; and **WHEREAS** in the unlikely event that Anacortes bests Bellingham, I pledge to contribute a basket of Bellingham delectables to the Mayor of Anacortes; and conversely, when Bellingham wins Anacortes will...;

NOW THEREFORE, DO I, Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim 2016 to be

ENERGY YEAR IN THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM



Signed this 26th day of January, 2016

Kelli Linville, Mayor
City of Bellingham