



**A PROCLAMATION IN CELEBRATION OF  
GREEN TACOMA DAY AND TACOMA’S ARBOR DAY**

**WHEREAS**, urban forests and green spaces provide substantial benefits to community health and happiness, resource sustainability, ecological preservation and climate resilience; and

**WHEREAS**, Tacoma has the lowest percentage of tree canopy in relation to its land area of any similarly evaluated community in our region; and

**WHEREAS**, increasing and caring for Tacoma’s tree canopy and urban green spaces is an equity issue in addition to an environmental issue. According to a 2024 report from the City of Tacoma, neighborhoods that rank higher on Tacoma’s Equity Index have 15% more tree cover than lower-opportunity neighborhoods, while neighborhoods lower on the Equity Index have 19% more impervious surfaces limiting greenspace; and

**WHEREAS**, the work of the Green Tacoma Partnership — a dynamic network of non-profit, business and government partners — is essential to restore and preserve our city’s forests and greenspaces in an equitable way through engaging community members in stewardship; and

**WHEREAS**, Green Tacoma Day is an annual event that offers community members opportunities to learn about and participate in caring for natural spaces. This year, 11 organizations hosted events at 13 sites across the city — many in lower-equity neighborhoods. These events included restoration parties, tree tours, planting events, tree giveaways and more.

**WHEREAS**, Green Tacoma Day brings Tacomans from all parts of our city to get outside and work together with their neighbors. This forms new relationships and builds shared responsibility that will be key to achieving true equity in our natural spaces; and

**WHEREAS**, 2024 is the 30-year milestone of Tacoma being recognized as a Tree City U.S.A. for its ongoing commitment to growing and caring for its urban forests and greenspaces.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Park Commissioners do hereby recognize and honor October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as Green Tacoma Day and Tacoma’s Arbor Day.

The foregoing proclamation was adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma at a regularly scheduled meeting held on October 14, 2024.

ATTEST:

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Board President

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Board Clerk