



King County

Metropolitan King County Council

RECOGNITION

WHEREAS, in King County, we celebrate the rich ethnic and cultural diversity of our people, sharing each other's traditions and heritage; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the great cultural contributions of our Polish-American community, descended from generations of Polish immigrants, who arrived in King County in the 1870s and settled in Seattle and the mining communities of the Mt. Rainier foothills; and

WHEREAS, the first Polish Hall opened in today's Ballard neighborhood in 1906, and as King County's Polish-American community continued to grow, a larger hall was opened in the Capitol Hill neighborhood in 1920; and

WHEREAS, today, more than 15,000 Polish-Americans call King County home, and more than 125,000 residents of Washington State proudly claim Polish ancestry; and

WHEREAS, numerous Polish cultural and civic organizations, like the Polish Cultural Center, the Polish Home Association, and the Polish-American Chamber of Commerce-Pacific Northwest have been established in King County to preserve Polish heritage, celebrate the contributions of area Polish-Americans, and promote Polish-American trade cooperation; and

WHEREAS, for nearly a century, the Polish-American community has organized annual festivals, and this year, the annual Polish Festival returns to Seattle Center on July 7th to celebrate multiculturalism and share Polish traditions, as we build understanding and friendship within our diverse community through live music, dance performances, workshops, exhibits, and children's activities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, King County Council Chair Joe McDermott, recognize the

POLISH FESTIVAL SEATTLE

and encourage all county residents to join in this celebration of culture and heritage.

DATED this seventh day of July, 2018.

Joe McDermott, Chair and
Councilmember, District Eight