



CITY OF BELLINGHAM  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
SETH FLEETWOOD

## MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** The City of Bellingham celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; and

**WHEREAS,** According to the United States Small Business Administration, there are 32.5 million small businesses in the United States, small businesses represent 99.7% of firms with paid employees, small businesses are responsible for 62% of net new jobs created since 1995, and small businesses employ 46.8% of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** 79% of consumers understand the importance of supporting the small businesses in their community on Small Business Saturday®, 70% report the day makes them want to encourage others to Shop Small®, independently-owned retailers, and 66% report that the day makes them want to Shop Small all year long; and

**WHEREAS,** 58% of shoppers reported they shopped online with a small business and 54% reported they dined or ordered takeout from a small restaurant, bar, or café on Small Business Saturday in 2021; and

**WHEREAS,** The City of Bellingham supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy, and preserve our communities; and

**WHEREAS,** Advocacy groups, as well as public and private organizations, across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

**NOW, THEREFORE, DO I,** Seth Fleetwood, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim Saturday, November 26, 2022, to be

### SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

in the City of Bellingham, Washington and urge all residents of our community to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday throughout the year.



Signed this 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022

Seth Fleetwood, Mayor  
City of Bellingham