

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The nation is experiencing the worst blood shortage in over a decade and the local blood supply has hit emergency levels. If the blood supply does not stabilize, life-saving blood may not be available for some patients when it is needed; and

WHEREAS, The month of January historically is a period of critical blood shortages. Blood centers like Bloodworks NW continue to face a decline in donor turnout during the holidays and many donors falling ill during cold and flu season; and

WHEREAS, On December 31, 1969, the President of the United States, Richard Nixon, signed a proclamation designating January as National Blood Donor Month. This observance is meant to honor voluntary blood donors and to encourage more people to give blood; and

WHEREAS, The mission of Bloodworks NW is saving lives through research, innovation, education, and excellence in blood, medial and laboratory services in partnership with our community. As part of this mission, Bloodworks NW supplies 95 percent of the Pacific Northwest's blood; and

WHEREAS, Bloodworks NW supplies blood products to Providence, PeaceHealth, Virginia Mason Hospital Systems and more in the Northwest Washington Region; and

WHEREAS, The City of Bellingham hosts a bloodmobile in front of City Hall every 56 days to support local patients.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kim Lund, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, Washington, do hereby proclaim January 2024 as

BLOOD DONOR MONTH

in the City of Bellingham and encourage the community to give back by donating, volunteering or giving blood. This lifesaving work is vital to strengthening our community's resilience.

SIEAL STAIL

Signed this 16th day of January 2024

Kim Lund, Mayor