

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** the rich heritage of Cambodia, one of the original civilizations in Southeast Asia, dates back over 4,000 years; and
- WHEREAS,** during the Cambodian Genocide, one of the bloodiest genocides in history, approximately 2 million people (nearly a quarter of the entire Cambodian population) lost their lives at the hands of the Khmer Rouge Regime between April 1975 and January 1979; and
- WHEREAS,** after 1979, over 140,000 refugees, predominantly from overpopulated Thai border camps, relocated to the United States to escape the harsh living conditions experienced in the camps and seek asylum from battered, war-torn Cambodia; and
- WHEREAS,** over half of the members of the Cambodian population experience varying degrees of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder or other forms of mental health issues brought forth by the Cambodian Genocide; and
- WHEREAS,** it is important to honor the Cambodian people who suffered and remember those who died at the hands of the Khmer Rouge Regime during the Cambodian Genocide; and
- WHEREAS,** Seattle is sister city to Sihanoukville, Cambodia, and
- WHEREAS,** the Seattle metro area is home to over 22,000 Cambodians, whose versatile members increasingly contribute to many thriving local and international businesses, including Amazon, Microsoft, flourishing entrepreneurial endeavors, and community-serving organizations; and
- WHEREAS,** Cambodian community leaders and elders from across Washington State work together relentlessly to reclaim cultural cornerstones nearly exterminated by the Khmer Rouge Regime and uplift their communities through education and cultural empowerment and resiliency;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR OF SEATTLE AND THE SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL DO
HEREBY PROCLAIM APRIL 17, 2017 TO BE

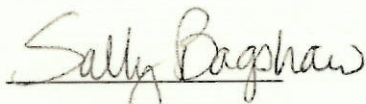
Cambodian Genocide Memorial Day



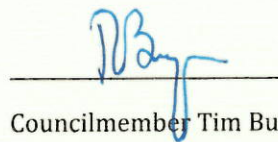
Mayor Edward B. Murray



Council President Bruce Harrell



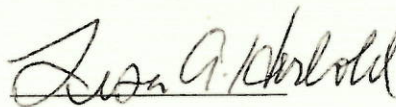
Councilmember Sally Bagshaw



Councilmember Tim Burgess



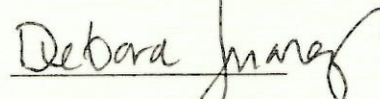
Councilmember M. Lorena González



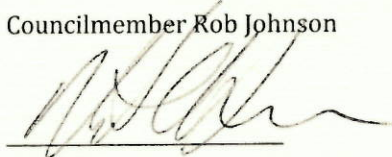
Councilmember Lisa Herbold



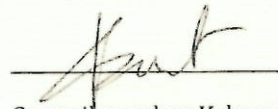
Councilmember Rob Johnson



Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Mike O'Brien



Councilmember Kshama Sawant