

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** Donald M. Harris has dedicated more than 45 years to the preservation, enhancement and expansion of our parks and greenspaces in our City; and
- WHEREAS,** Donald began work as a Seattle Parks and Recreation lifeguard during the summer of 1967, and joined Seattle Parks and Recreation full time in 1971; and
- WHEREAS,** Donald led the successful implementation of the 1989 King County Open Space and Trails Bond resulting in the acquisition of more than 700 acres of park and open space land; and
- WHEREAS,** during his tenure Donald has seen Seattle's park system grow by more than 2,400 acres through purchase, interagency transfers, and donations, often guided by his able hand; and
- WHEREAS,** Donald worked with residents, community groups, peers, and park professionals to advocate for open space preservation and development, often mentoring with creative strategies and approaches, participating in innumerable evening meetings and leading many, many tours of Seattle's park system; and
- WHEREAS,** Donald led the seven-year public process that resulted in the Washington Park Arboretum Master Plan and provided expertise to the Arboretum Botanic Garden Committee, comprised of Seattle Parks and Recreation, the Arboretum Foundation and the University of Washington Botanic Garden; and
- WHEREAS,** Donald played an important role in enhancing the livability of our City for more than four decades through his leadership, community outreach, problem solving and teamwork; and
- WHEREAS,** colleagues, friends and community members have described Donald as passionate about parks, the go-to guy, the glue of Seattle Parks and Recreation, fun, smart, fair, inclusive, dedicated and intuitive to name only a few of the qualities that have served him well over his many years of public service;

*NOW, THEREFORE I, EDWARD B. MURRAY, MAYOR OF SEATTLE, DO HEREBY
PROCLAIM APRIL 1, 2016 TO BE, IN OUR CITY*

Donald M. Harris Day



Mayor Edward B. Murray
City of Seattle

