## **PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, parks, arts, and recreation is an integral part of communities throughout this country, including the City of Olympia; and

WHEREAS, parks, arts, and recreation promotes health and wellness, improving the physical and mental health of people who live near parks; and

WHEREAS, parks, arts, and recreation has the opportunity to create a sense of belonging for all who engage in our services and facilities; and

WHEREAS, parks, arts, and recreation positively impacts mental health by increasing cognitive performance and well-being, and reduce illnesses such as depression, attention deficit disorders, and Alzheimer's; and

WHEREAS, parks, arts, and recreation encourages physical activities by providing space for popular sports, hiking trails, fitness programs, and many other activities designed to promote active lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, our community has consistently and graciously supported parks, arts, and recreation services through two voted measures and active fee-based participation in our programs and services; and

WHEREAS, parks, arts, and recreation is fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community and serves as critical infrastructure necessary for advancing climate goals; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia recognizes the benefits derived from parks, arts, and recreation resources.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Olympia City Council does hereby proclaim

July is recognized as Parks, Arts, and Recreation Month in the City of Olympia

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 16th DAY OF JULY, 2024.

**OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL** 

Dontae Payne Mayor