

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Earth Day was created 47 years ago, recognizing the importance for everyone to participate in preserving our natural resources, and on that first Earth Day 20 million Americans rallied for a healthy, sustainable environment; and

WHEREAS, the global community now faces extraordinary challenges such as global health issues, food and water shortages, and economic struggles; and

WHEREAS, all life forms on Earth have a right to a healthy, sustainable environment; and

WHEREAS, Jay Inslee, the Governor of Washington State has proclaimed the month of April to be Earth Month in Washington State, in recognition of the urgency of enlisting all people to protect and sustain life on the planet; and

WHEREAS, here in Olympia, the Procession of the Species was created in 1995 to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of Earth Day and to support Congressional renewal of the Endangered Species Act, inspiring thousands, young and old, to deepen their understanding, appreciation, and protection of the natural world; and

WHEREAS, all of us, as caretakers of our planet, have an obligation to change the human behaviors that contribute to climate change and environmental degradation to preserve the Earth's beauty as well as its resources; and

WHEREAS, this obligation extends not only to today's caretakers but also to the future generations of caretakers who will inherit our planet from us; and

WHEREAS, our local citizens, schools, environmental organizations and businesses have raised over 100 Earth Flags to unite those during the entire month working in the interest of the planet, and to build intergenerational action through local activism and global environmental consciousness; and

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

EARTH MONTH

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 11th DAY OF APRIL, 2017.

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL

**Cheryl Selby
Mayor**