



## PROCLAMATION PUGET SOUND STARTS HERE MONTH

**WHEREAS**, Puget Sound and the waterways that connect our mountains to the shore contribute in numerous ways to our Lake Forest Park economic infrastructure, quality of life and to our unparalleled natural resource base; and

**WHEREAS**, water quality is a priority for the health and welfare of citizens in Lake Forest Park; and

**WHEREAS**, millions of pounds of toxic pollutants enter Puget Sound every year, most of which are a result of rain washing over hard surfaces contaminated with yard chemicals, pet waste, oil, soaps, and other toxins that then enter storm drains, streams, and ultimately Puget Sound; and

**WHEREAS**, educational initiatives such as the regional “Puget Sound Starts Here” campaign work to protect and improve local and regional water quality; and

**WHEREAS**, state agencies and more than 400 local organizations, governments and tribes, including Lake Forest Park, have joined together to engage residents in Puget Sound recovery, and who have collectively launched the “Puget Sound Starts Here” public awareness campaign; and

**WHEREAS**, “Puget Sound Starts Here Month” is an opportunity to bring attention and focus to the issue of local and regional water quality and provide educational opportunities for the public to learn how they can help clean up Puget Sound and our local waterways; and

**WHEREAS**, the actions Puget Sound’s more than 4.5 million residents take today add up to determine the future of our health, economy, culture and quality of life;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Lake Forest Park, do hereby proclaim September 2024 as:

### **Puget Sound Starts Here Month**

in the city of Lake Forest Park and urge all citizens to take responsibility for their part in protecting and improving the health of Puget Sound for future generations by participating in a local volunteer cleanup or restoration project and adopting at least one Sound-healthy behavior to help restore and protect Puget Sound and our local waterways.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, signed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024.

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Thomas French, Mayor