

# CITY OF YAKIMA PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, in 1827, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees and the holiday, Arbor Day; and*

*WHEREAS, Arbor Day was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska and is now observed through the nation and the world; and*

*WHEREAS, the Yakima Area Arboretum, in 2000, established the Arbor Festival to encourage an appreciation for trees and nature in the Yakima area and it has grown to one of the largest Arbor Day festivals in the Pacific Northwest; and*

*WHEREAS, trees can lower our heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and*

*WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community – trees are a source of joy and spiritual renewal,*

*NOW THEREFORE, I, Patricia Byers, Mayor of the City of Yakima and on behalf of the City Council hereby proclaim the second Saturday in April as*

## ***“ARBOR DAY”***

*in the City of Yakima and recognize the Yakima Area Arboretum’s Arbor Festival as the City’s official celebration. The City of Yakima encourages all citizens to plant and care for trees to promote the well-being of this and future generations.*

*Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024*

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*Patricia Byers, Mayor*