CITY OF YAKIMA P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, June is recognized as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Asexual, Aromantic, Queer, Two-Spirit, Non-Binary, and Intersex + Pride Month, and the plus reflects the countless affirmative ways in which people choose to self-identify; and

WHEREAS, the historic Stonewall uprising of 1969 stands as a cornerstone of the LGBTQ+ Rights Movement, reminding us that progress and equality are achieved through unwavering determination, resilience and collective action; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yakima values the diversity of its residents, including those within the LGBTQ2S+ community and acknowledges the ongoing struggles they face; and

WHEREAS, Yakima, resting on the ancestral lands of the fourteen Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, acknowledges and respects the resilience and cultural significance of Native American Two-Spirit people, who historically occupied a distinct, alternative gender status within their Tribes; and

WHEREAS, Yakima acknowledges the challenges faced by Two-Spirit individuals and celebrates their ongoing efforts to reclaim and revitalize their traditions and practices; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yakima is committed to fostering a culture of respect, support, and inclusivity, ensuring that LGBTQ2S+ individuals can live authentically, feel secure, and thrive free from discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yakima proudly honors the contributions and achievements of the LGBTQ2S+ community, recognizing their pivotal roles in shaping the vibrant history and culture of Yakima.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Patricia Byers, Mayor of the City of Yakima, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of June 2024 as

"LGBTQ2S+ Pride Month"

in the City of Yakima and encourage all residents to join in commemorating diversity, fostering inclusion, and advocating for equal protection under the law. Let us unite in our commitment to eradicate prejudice and discriminatory practices, ensuring that all cultures, races, and groups are treated with dignity and respect.

Dated this 4th day of June, 2024

Patricia Byers, Mayor