

CITY OF LAKEWOOD



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on September 7th, just before 5 p.m., a series of unprecedented brush fires erupted in Pierce County; and

WHEREAS, South Sound 911 began to receive 911 calls reporting smoke and fire along State Route 167; in a short four-hour timespan, another fast moving fire was reported in Graham; and the next morning the Sumner Grade Fire broke out, threatening the communities of Bonney Lake and Sumner; and

WHEREAS, due to extreme weather conditions, all of the fires quickly escalated to large scale wildland fires, which are rarely experienced in Western Washington; and


WHEREAS, residents were evacuated, shelter sites set-up, emergency operations declared and mutual aid activated; and

WHEREAS, over a three-day period the fires contributed to the loss of seven homes and numerous other losses in Pierce County including nineteen residential fires, eight commercial fires and seventy-two brush fires; and

WHEREAS, the total fire activity was significant and would have been overwhelming if not for South Sound 911 first responders who brought order and calm to these very chaotic days by handling a significant volume of calls, working extended shifts, deploying with the Incident Management Team and Emergency Operations Center and in some cases coming to work on their own accord to assist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lakewood City Council does hereby recognize and commend the South Sound 911 first responders for their extraordinary work under extreme conditions during the State Route 167, Graham and Sumner Grade Fire events.

PROCLAIMED this 7th day of December, 2020.



Don Anderson, Mayor