

# CITY OF LAKEWOOD



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Mary Dodsworth served the City of Lakewood with distinction and professionalism as the Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, following 15 years of service with the Town of Steilacoom; and

**WHEREAS**, Mary Dodsworth was hired as Parks Manager and promoted to the position of Park, Recreation and Community Services Director, a title she held 24 years; and

**WHEREAS**, during her tenure Mary Dodsworth demonstrated an unwavering commitment, leadership and dedication to the Lakewood community; and

**WHEREAS**, under Mary Dodsworth's guidance the city's parks, trails, recreational programs and community services have flourished, enhancing the quality of life for residents of all ages and fostering a stronger, more connected community; and

**WHEREAS**, Mary Dodsworth has played a key role in the transformation, development and stewardship of Lakewood's parks and open spaces, ensuring access to safe, vibrant and inclusive place for all residents to enjoy; and

**WHEREAS**, Mary Dodsworth expanded recreation programs and access to recreation through the establishment of community events such as the Lakewood Farmers Market, SummerFEST, summer concert series and Truck and Tractor Day; and

**WHEREAS**, under Mary Dodsworth's leadership the City secured numerous grants that brought vital resources to enhance public spaces and support programs and special community events for residents of all ages; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout her career, Dodsworth has been recognized at regional and national levels for her professional contributions. She received the National Recreation and Park Association's Young Professional Award and was an active member of the Washington Recreation and Parks Association (WRPA); and

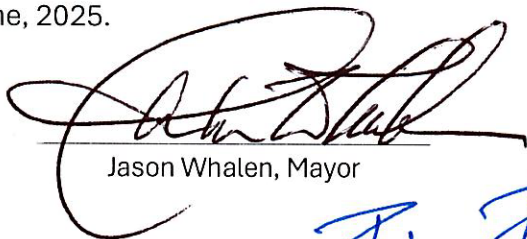
**WHEREAS**, Dodsworth served in numerous leadership roles, including as President of the Washington Recreation and Parks Association and was honored with multiple awards, culminating with her induction as an Honor Fellow in 2014, the organization's highest honor; and

**WHEREAS**, she has received the Commander's Award for Public Service from the Department of the Army at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, a reflection of her outstanding partnership and support of the military community; and

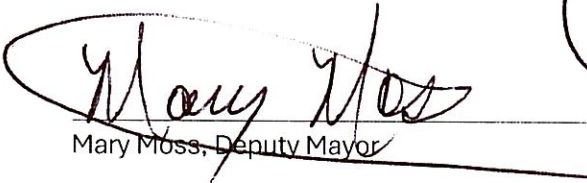
**WHEREAS**, Mary Dodsworth has announced her retirement effective June 13, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of leadership, collaboration, and community-building that has shaped Lakewood into the vibrant city it is today.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Lakewood City Council hereby honors and expresses deepest appreciation for Mary Dodsworth's exemplary service and heartfelt contribution to the Lakewood community and urges residents to join in recognizing and celebrating her outstanding achievements and well-earned retirement.

PROCLAIMED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.



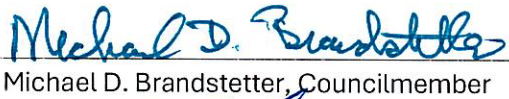
Jason Whalen, Mayor



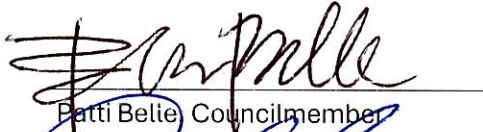
Mary Moss, Deputy Mayor



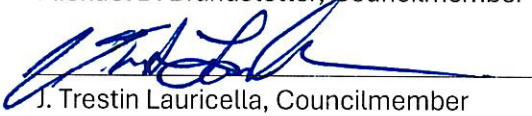
Ryan Pearson, Councilmember



Michael D. Brandstetter, Councilmember



Patti Belle, Councilmember



J. Trestin Lauricella, Councilmember



Paul Bocchi, Councilmember