

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**  
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

<b>AGENDA TITLE:</b> Proclamation of "World Refugee Day"
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b> Community Services Division
<b>PRESENTED BY:</b> Rob Beem, Community Services Manager
<b>ACTION:</b> ___ Ordinance       ___ Resolution       ___ Motion ___ Discussion       ___ Public Hearing    ___ <u>X</u> Proclamation

**PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:**

The United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution declaring June 20 as World Refugee Day. World Refugee Day was established by the United Nations to honor the courage, strength and determination of women, men and children who are forced to flee their homes under threat of persecution, conflict and violence. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has developed [series of videos](#) showing refugees from around the world forced to decide whether to stay and risk death, or leave and endure the difficult life of a refugee.

The City of Shoreline has long recognized the richness and value brought to our community by refugees and immigrants. Shoreline is served by numerous agencies and organizations that offer support to refugees. These include the Center for Human Services, International Community Health Services and the Refugee Women's Alliance of Washington.

In observance of World Refugee Day this proclamation recognizes the day in the City of Shoreline and honors the courage, resilience and determination of refugees and the organizations that support them.

Tsehaynesh Alemayoh, (first name pronounced Sa-high-neesh-accent on middle syllable), an East African (Eritrean) refugee and longtime resident of Shoreline will be on hand to accept the proclamation.

**RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

This issue has no financial impact.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Mayor should read the proclamation and present it to the person who will be accepting it.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A - Proclamation of World Refugee Day

Approved By:       City Manager **DT**   City Attorney **IS**



# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, more than 43 million people in the world – including 17 million refugees – have fled their homes due to war, persecution, or natural disasters; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 4, 2000, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution designating June 20 as World Refugee Day; and

**WHEREAS**, on World Refugee Day the world honors the courage, resilience, and determination of refugees; and

**WHEREAS**, refugees have made invaluable contributions to our world, expanding our world views and enriching our communities with their diverse traditions, perseverance, ingenuity, and hard-earned wisdom; and

**WHEREAS**, the Shoreline City Council invites fellow Shoreline residents to recognize the importance of refugee support services in the Shoreline community and around the world;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Shari Winstead, Mayor of the City of Shoreline, on behalf of the Shoreline City Council, do hereby proclaim in the City of Shoreline, June 20, 2014 as

## WORLD REFUGEE DAY

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Shari Winstead  
Mayor of Shoreline