

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

<p>AGENDA TITLE: Proclamation Declaring Cesar Chavez Day in the City of Shoreline DEPARTMENT: CMO/CCK PRESENTED BY: Jessica Simulcik Smith, City Clerk</p>

ISSUE STATEMENT:

On March 31 of each year the nation celebrates Cesar Chavez Day. A true champion for justice, Cesar Chavez advocated for and won many of the rights and benefits we now enjoy, and his spirit lives on in the hands and hearts of working women and men today.

Raised in the fields of Arizona and California, Cesar Chavez faced hardship and injustice from a young age. At the time, farm workers toiled in the shadows of society, vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. Families like Chavez's were impoverished; exposed to hazardous working conditions and dangerous pesticides; and often denied clean drinking water, toilets, and other basic necessities.

Cesar Chavez saw the need for change and made a courageous choice to work to improve the lives of his fellow farm workers. This proclamation calls upon all citizens to observe this day with appropriate service, community, and educational programs to honor Cesar Chavez's enduring legacy.

Hilario Alvarez, owner of Alvarez Organic Farms and Shoreline Farmer's Market participant, along with his son Eddie Alvarez, Markets Manager, will be in attendance to accept the proclamation.

RECOMMENDATION

The Mayor should read the proclamation.

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



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez was raised in the fields of Arizona and California, where he faced hardship and injustice from a young age; and

WHEREAS, families like Chavez's were exposed to hazardous working conditions and dangerous pesticides, and often denied clean drinking water, toilets, and other basic necessities; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez saw the need for change and made a courageous choice to work to improve the lives of his fellow farm workers; and

WHEREAS, through boycotts and fasts, he led others on a path of nonviolence, and with quiet leadership and a powerful voice, founded the United Farm Workers (UFW) with Dolores Huerta, launching one of our Nation's most inspiring social movements; and

WHEREAS, a true champion for justice, Cesar Chavez advocated for and won many of the rights and benefits we now enjoy, and;

WHEREAS, we face the challenges of our day, let us do so with the hope and determination of Cesar Chavez, echoing the words that were his rallying cry and continue to inspire so many today, "Sí, se puede" – "Yes, we can."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christopher Roberts, Mayor of the City of Shoreline, on behalf of the Shoreline City Council, hereby proclaim March 31, 2016 as

CESAR CHAVEZ DAY

in the City of Shoreline, and call upon all citizens to observe this day with appropriate service, community, and educational programs to honor Cesar Chavez's enduring legacy.

Christopher Roberts, Mayor