

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Proclamation Declaring Cesar Chavez Day in the City of Shoreline
DEPARTMENT:	CMO/CCK/D&I/PRCS
PRESENTED BY:	Jessica Simulcik Smith, City Clerk

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.

Parent Representatives from the Natural Leaders from the Washington Alliance for Better Schools, Shoreline, will be in attendance to accept the proclamation. Natural Leaders serve as multi-cultural bridges between students, families, communities, and schools, and teach immigrant and English as a second language parents how to navigate the school system to help their children be successful. Suni Tolton, Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator, will also be on hand to extend an invitation for residents to visit the Latino Art Exhibit at City Hall, and the closing reception and poetry reading, scheduled for Saturday, April 21, 2018, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

RECOMMENDATION

The Mayor should read the proclamation.

Approved By: City Manager City Attorney



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez was raised in the fields of Arizona and California, where he faced hardship and injustice from a young age, exposed to hazardous and unclean working conditions; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez saw the need for change and made a courageous choice to work to improve the lives of his fellow farm workers, 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, Mr. 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, Will Hall, Mayor of the City of Shoreline, on behalf of the Shoreline City Council, hereby proclaim March 31, 2018 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.

Will Hall, Mayor