

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Proclamation of Sexual Assault Awareness Month		
DEPARTMENT:	CMO/CCK		
PRESENTED BY:	Jessica Simulcik Smith, City Clerk		
ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolution	<input type="checkbox"/> Motion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proclamation

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:

In observance of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, this proclamation recognizes the serious and widespread problem of sexual assault and the importance of support and advocacy in the aftermath of trauma. Rape is the most under-reported crime in the United States and costs the US more than any other crime. 81% of female victims and 35% of men report significant short- or long-term impacts such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. This form of violence is a serious public health problem, both physically and psychologically. It is critical to have a coordinated response and system of care in place to address the consequences of sexual assault. Community education is a vital component of eliminating sexual violence.

King County Sexual Assault Resource Center's (KCSARC's) purpose is to alleviate, as much as possible, the trauma of sexual assault for victims and their families. Their mission is to give voice to victims, their families, and the community; create change in beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors about violence; and instill courage for people to speak out about sexual assault.

Ryan Schafer, King County Sexual Assault Resource Center Board Member and Shoreline resident, will attend the meeting and accept the proclamation.

RECOMMENDATION

The Mayor should read the proclamation.

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



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in Washington State, 45% of women and 22% of men report having experienced sexual violence in their lifetime, and nationally, 1 in 5 children under 18 are sexually abused; and

WHEREAS, the risk is even higher for people of color, refugees, immigrants, LGBTQ and other marginalized community members; and

WHEREAS, in King County, more than 7,300 adults and children received specialized assistance from organizations with programming for sexual assault victims in 2018; and

WHEREAS, demand for services at the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center jumped 19% last year, serving 4,888 individuals in 2018, of which half were children and reflecting the cultural shift that is taking place that has prompted many survivors who have remained silent to now speak up and seek the help they need to heal; and

WHEREAS, working together to educate our community about sexual violence, supporting survivors when they come forward, speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions, and engaging in best-practice sexual violence prevention work helps end sexual violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Will Hall, Mayor of the City of Shoreline, on behalf of the Shoreline City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of April as

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Shoreline, and join advocates and communities throughout King County in taking action to prevent sexual violence by standing with survivors. Together, we commit to a safer future for all children, young people, adults, and families in our community.

Will Hall, Mayor