

Proclamation

Whereas, Women's History Month offers an important opportunity for us to shine a light on the extraordinary legacy of trailblazing American women and girls who have built, shaped, and improved upon our nation; and

Whereas, women and girls have made vital contributions, often in the face of discrimination and undue hardship, and have marched for and won the right to vote, campaigned against injustice, shattered countless barriers, and expanded the possibilities of American life; and

Whereas, women received the right to vote in Washington via constitutional amendment in 1910; and

Whereas, Washington State has a long history of women elected to office at state and local levels, starting with the first women elected to the Washington State Legislature—Frances C. Axtell of Bellingham, and Nena J. Croake of Tacoma—in 1912; and

Whereas, the City of Renton's first woman councilmember was Hattie Butler in 1918, and Margaret Proctor was the first African-American woman to serve on the Renton Council in 1978, and Barbara Shinpoch became Renton's first woman mayor in 1980, paving the way for other women to serve on Renton City Council, where they have shaped, influenced and contributed to the history and growth of the Renton community; and

Whereas, many women in the Renton community participate in their local government by serving on boards, commissions and committees that assist in developing policies and making recommendations for the betterment of the Renton community; and

Whereas, more than 100 years after the milestone passage of the 19th Amendment legally protecting women's right to vote, women continue to be trailblazers, pioneers, innovators, and leaders in their fields;

Now, therefore, I, Armondo Pavone, Mayor of the City of Renton, do hereby proclaim March 2021 to be

Women's History Month

in the City of Renton, and I encourage all members of the community to join me in this special observation.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Renton to be affixed this 15th day of March, 2021.

Armondo Pavone, Mayor City of Renton, Washington

