

Vanport Proclamation – TC 9:45am May 24, 2017

Commissioner Fish's Office

Contact Jamie Dunphy (3-3599) or Everett Wild (3-3358)

Whereas, our understanding of history shapes our view of the present, and in order to understand where we are going, we must understand where we are from; and

Whereas, 2017 is the 75th anniversary of the construction of Vanport, built in 1942; and

Whereas, Vanport was once the country's largest public housing project and Oregon's second largest city, with a peak population of 40,000; and

Whereas, the Vanport community was intended as temporary housing for shipbuilders during World War II and included schools, stores, a hospital, a movie theater, and a two-year college; and

Whereas, Vanport became an experiment in racial integration, for as many as twenty-five percent of its residents—from all corners of the country—were African-American, when African-Americans were less than one percent of the entire state's population; and

Whereas, Vanport was constructed in the Columbia River flood plain and was protected from the river by a series of levees; and

Whereas, the Columbia River flooded on May 30, 1948, immediately displacing 18,700 residents; and

Whereas, Vanport Mosaic will hold a Festival from May 26 – 30, 2017 to honor and celebrate Vanport as an essential and often forgotten chapter in Portland's history;

Now, therefore, I, Ted Wheeler Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses,"

hereby proclaim May 30, 2017 to be

Vanport Day of Remembrance

in Portland, and encourage all residents to observe this day.

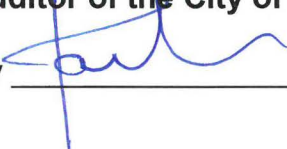
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Proclaim May 30, 2017 to be Vanport Day of Remembrance in Portland
(Proclamation introduced by Mayor Wheeler and Commissioner Fish)

MAY 24 2017
PLACED ON FILE

Filed MAY 16 2017

MARY HULL CABALLERO
Auditor of the City of Portland

By 

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Eudaly		
Wheeler		