

Whereas

Whereas, Portland is a growing City in a growing metropolitan area; and

Whereas, with growth and development comes more outdoor lighting; and

Whereas, with increased outdoor lighting comes increased light pollution; and

Whereas, an excess of light pollution prevents most of Earth's population from having the opportunity to observe the stars and has caused nearly one-third of the world, including 80 percent of North Americans, to be unable to see the Milky Way; and

Whereas, light pollution wastes energy, increases our carbon footprint, and has widespread and deleterious impacts on health and safety for human and wildlife; and

Whereas Portland is on the Pacific Flyway which brings millions of birds into our airspace during migration and light pollution represents a major threat to migratory birds including interfering with migratory patterns, and contributing to collisions, which cause up to 1 billion bird deaths every year; and

Whereas, North American's bird population have declined 30 percent since the 1970's; and

Whereas, the City of Portland has adopted policies directed at reducing light pollution in Portland including in the 2035 Comprehensive Plan, the Climate Action Plan, and the Green Building Policy; and

Whereas, during fiscal year 2019-20 City Council funded a Dark Skies project with the goal of developing a strategy with recommendations for carrying out these policies; and

Whereas, the Dark Skies strategy is an essential part of creating a healthy, equitable and resilient city; and

Whereas, the Dark Skies report was presented to City Council on September 17, 2020 and calls for comprehensive regulatory and public outreach approaches to address light pollution from homes, buildings, commercial and industrial developments, and streetlights; and

Whereas, Portland Audubon sponsors an annual Lights Out Portland public outreach event to call attention to the fall launch of bird migration season and engage residents and building owners and managers in actions to reduce unnecessary sky glow and help to prevent birds from being attracted to urban areas; and

Whereas, Lights Out programs are key outreach strategies identified in the Dark Skies report and recommendations that other cities across North America have taken to help reduce unnecessary light pollution;

Whereas, the City of Portland supports Portland Audubon's efforts related to reducing light pollution in Portland; and

Whereas, Several City of Portland buildings and facilities are currently participating in Portland Audubon's seasonal Lights Our program including City Hall, the Portland Building, and several Portland Parks and Recreation Community Centers.

Now, therefore, I, Ted Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses", do hereby proclaim September 19, 2020 to be

Lights Out Portland Night

in Portland and encourage Portlanders to turn off their interior and exterior lights from 11:00 pm unit dawn and go outside to view the night sky, and further encourage Portlanders to take the pledge to extinguish unnecessary exterior lighting every night during seasonal migration (September – October and April – May).

Proclaim September 19, 2020 to be Lights Out Portland Night in
Portland (Proclamation introduced by Mayor Wheeler)

Filed _____

MARY HULL CABALLERO
Auditor of the City of Portland

By _____

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	Yea	Nay
1. Fritz		
2. Hardesty		
3. Eudaly		
Wheeler		