

# Whereas

*Whereas,* the first Monday in March, has been designated as COVID-19 Victims and Survivors Memorial Day; and

*Whereas,* COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) is an illness caused by a virus that can transmit from person to person and has spread across the world, creating a global pandemic that is having catastrophic effects on human life, our community, and our economy; and

*Whereas,* Local and state governments, health departments, and public servants have taken bold actions to protect residents, support struggling local economies, and find innovative ways to provide services; and

*Whereas,* In response to rapid spread of COVID-19 and stay-at-home orders, essential workers have stepped up to provide critical services to help protect our communities and save lives, sacrificing their own health and safety; and

*Whereas,* COVID-19 has had a disproportionate impact on Black and Indigenous people, people of color, low-income communities, and Oregon's elders, exacerbating inequities already prevalent in our systems that we must address as a nation; and

*Whereas,* Public health guidance and policies targeted at prevention, such as social distancing, wearing masks in public, and staying home help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, prevent illness, and lessen the burden on individuals and society; and

*Whereas,* The symptoms and severity of COVID-19 can vary dramatically by individual and the long-term health implications for survivors is largely unknown, as many survivors suffer with lingering side-effects of the disease long after they no longer test positive; and

*Whereas,* Nearly two and a half million people worldwide and over 500,000 in the United States have lost their lives due to COVID-19, and, in Multnomah County alone, more than 500 lives have been lost to this deadly virus; and

*Whereas,* Each life lost to COVID-19 has meaning and leaves a hole in the hearts of loved ones, family members, and surrounding community; and

# Whereas

*Now, therefore,* The City of Portland, in remembrance of those who have lost their lives and in honor of those who are forever marked by COVID and continue to suffer from the impact of this virus, supports the designation of the first Monday in March as

*COVID-19 Memorial Day*

In Portland and encourage all residents to observe this day.

Designate the first Monday in March as COVID-19 Memorial Day  
(Proclamation introduced by Mayor Wheeler)

**March 3, 2021**  
**Placed on file**

Filed February 23, 2021

**MARY HULL CABALLERO**  
**Auditor of the City of Portland**

By *Keelan McClymont*  
Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED  
AS FOLLOWS:

	YEAS	NAYS
1. Rubio		
2. Ryan		
3. Hardesty		
4. Mapps		
Wheeler		