Whereas, 30 years ago a small group of visionary neighborhood business owners came together to create an organization to strengthen the more than 50 neighborhood business districts in Portland; and

Whereas, neighborhood business districts serve the diverse communities that surround them, produce a wide variety of high-quality goods and services, drive Portland's local economy, and contribute to the city's goals of healthy connected neighborhoods; and

Whereas, Venture Portland works with neighborhood business districts to host 200 public events each year, drawing more than 1 million visitors and strengthening Portland's unique identity; and

Whereas, Venture Portland, in partnership with the City, has invested \$1.25 million in business districts, funding 468 projects and leveraging nearly \$4 million in additional private investment; and

Whereas, Venture Portland provides almost 2,000 hours of training and technical assistance to neighborhood business districts each year; and

Whereas, Venture Portland has strengthened connections between neighborhood businesses, business districts and City Bureaus, helping ensure that the "City that Works" truly works for local businesses: and

Whereas, Venture Portland's passionate volunteer leadership is made up of representatives from every business district, who collectively contribute more than 1,700 volunteer hours each year; and

Whereas, on January 31 Venture Portland celebrated 30 years supporting neighborhood businesses and business districts:

Now, therefore, I, Charlie Hales, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses," do hereby proclaim Thursday, February 4th to be

Venture Portland Day

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

Proclaim Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> to be Venture Portland Day in Portland (Proclamation introduced by Mayor Hales and Commissioner Fish)

FEB 0 3 2016

PLACED ON FILE

Filed JAN 26 2016

MARY HULL CABALLERO Auditor of the City of Portland

By <

| AS FOLLOWS: |      |      |
|-------------|------|------|
|             | YEAS | NAYS |
| 1. Fritz    |      |      |
| 2. Fish     |      | 3    |
| 3. Saltzman |      |      |
| 4. Novick   | ε.   |      |
| Hales       |      |      |