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791-2024

Proclamation

Proclaim September 13-22, 2024 to be Welcoming Week

Placed on File

Whereas, the City of Portland recognizes that immigrants and refugees contribute to a culturally vibrant, prosperous, and multicultural community; and

Whereas, regardless of where we are born or how we identify, we are Portlanders, and our lives are interdependent. By fostering a welcoming environment for all—regardless of immigration status, race, ethnicity, place of origin, English language proficiency, religion, income, gender, sexual orientation, differing abilities, age, and other factors—we enhance Portland’s health, economic prosperity, and well-being for current and future generations; and

Whereas, on June 17, 2020, all City of Portland Commissioners voted to approve a resolution that created a strict no-tolerance policy for racism, discrimination, and bias in the workplace, and continues to encourage all City employees and services to operate with the values of anti-racism, equity, collaboration, communication, fiscal responsibility, and transparency; and

Whereas, fostering Portland’s spirit of unity, safety, and belonging begins with us, and we must continue to be a place where individuals feel valued and safe; and

Whereas, all Portlanders should commit to helping immigrant and refugee communities, beyond this proclamation, and make Portland a welcoming place for all; and

Whereas, the City of Portland has received several thousand Afghan and Ukrainian individuals and will likely continue to see our refugee, asylum seeker, and other immigrant communities continue to grow; and

Whereas, Portland is a member of Welcoming America, a national nonprofit, and a network of local governments and nonprofits around the world that pledge to become a welcoming place for new and long-term residents alike; and

Introduced by

[Mayor Ted Wheeler;](#)
[Commissioner Dan Ryan](#)

City department

[Office of Community & Civic Life](#)

Contact

WAFALMAKTARI

Coordinator I - E • Adapt to Impact

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Requested Agenda Type

Regular

Date and Time Information

Requested Council Date

September 11, 2024

Time Requested

15 minutes

Whereas, the City of Portland is once again leading the way by hosting Welcoming Week for the second year with the theme “Where We Belong.”

Now, therefore, I, Ted Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the “City of Roses,” do hereby proclaim September 13th through 22nd, 2024, to be

Welcoming Week

in Portland and encourage all Portlanders to partake in this week.

Exhibits and Attachments

 [Proclamation](#) 100.12 KB

Document History

Item 791 Regular Agenda in [September 11, 2024 Council Agenda](#)
(<https://www.portland.gov/council/agenda/2024/9/11>)

City Council

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 WELCOMING
WEEK



Join Welcoming Week celebrations featuring a ceramics exhibit by artist Jenn DeMonte. Her works share the unique stories of refugees, offering an artistic exploration of their experiences. The exhibit runs between September 13 - 22, 2024 at Portland Center Stage.



Office of
Community
& Civic Life



WORLD
REGION



PORTLAND
CENTER
STAGE



Refic Battin
Director of Policy & Operations - PRSG
(Panelist)



Eusebio Cruz
Subject Matter Expert - Migrant Child Welfare
(Panelist)



Djimel Dogo
Associate Director - IRCO/Africa House
(Panelist)



Isa Pena
Director of Strategy - Innovation Law Lab
(Panelist)



Tim DuRoche
Director of Programs - WorldOregon
(Moderator)

In line with this year's theme, 'We're All In,' join our Welcoming Week panel discussion exploring work done at state, regional, and city levels, highlighting how grassroots organizations and initiatives foster a culture of belonging. The conversation will cover small victories and significant achievements in our collective efforts, opportunities to advance immigrant-refugee policy, and ways citizens can support a community of welcome amid a polarizing upcoming election.

**Thursday, September 19, 2024 (6 - 7PM)
@Portland Center Stage**

RSVPs greatly appreciated via the QR code

