



MEMORANDUM

Phone: 452-5213
Date: September 10, 2012
To: Parks & Community Services Board
From: Shelley Brittingham, Assistant Director
Subject: Citizenship Week Proclamation

This year, the Bellevue Downtown Association and the City of Bellevue will host a Naturalization and Citizenship Ceremony at Bellevue City Hall, on September 17, from 11am–noon in the Council Chambers.

The ceremony program will consist of immigrants officially being sworn in as citizens to the United States. Speakers at the event will include Mayor Conrad Lee, Jose Garcia-Pabon, Ph.D, a naturalized citizen, Bellevue resident and professor of Community and Economic Development/ Latino Community Studies.

The program will also feature the singing of the National Anthem and a video message from President Barack Obama. The entire program will be streamed live on Bellevue Television and archived on the City of Bellevue website.

Bellevue's Naturalization Ceremony, the second such program for Bellevue and the Eastside, also coincides with the national observance of Constitution Week, September 17–23.

We hope you can join us in celebration of this year's special event.

CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

PROCLAMATION

Whereas; The City of Bellevue recognizes that the freedoms guaranteed by the United States Constitution continue to inspire Americans and those who seek citizenship; and

Whereas; The success of our democracy, at all levels of government, requires active participation by its citizenry; and

Whereas; More than one quarter of Bellevue's residents were born outside of the United States; and

Whereas; Everyday, Bellevue and the region benefit greatly from the talent and cultural contributions of those who have immigrated to this country; and

Whereas; The City of Bellevue invites opportunities to celebrate our growing diversity and encourage residents to engage in their community; and

Whereas; Whereas, the Bellevue Downtown Association and the City of Bellevue together hosted a Naturalization Ceremony on September 17 at Bellevue City Hall; and

Whereas; Bellevue's Naturalization Ceremony coincides with the national observance of Constitution Week;

*Now, therefore, I, Conrad Lee, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington on behalf of the City Council do hereby proclaim **September 17-23** as*

CITIZENSHIP WEEK

in Bellevue, and encourage all citizens to observe this time by celebrating, reaffirming and learning more about the rights and duties granted by the Constitution.

Further, we congratulate the residents in our community who have made the significant decision to embrace the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship.

Conrad Lee
Mayor