



## *PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL*

**WHEREAS**, in 1872, the Nebraska Board of Agriculture established a special day to be set aside for the planting of trees; and

**WHEREAS**, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

**WHEREAS**, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, trees can be a solution to combating climate change by reducing the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cutting heating and cooling costs, moderating the temperature, cleaning the air, producing life-giving oxygen, and providing habitat for wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, trees are a renewable resource, giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and countless other wood products; and

**WHEREAS**, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

**WHEREAS**, although Arbor Day is traditionally celebrated in the Spring, research has shown that trees planted in the Pacific Northwest have a better opportunity for optimum growth when planted in the fall; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fircrest Parks and Recreation Department has partnered with the Tacoma Tree Foundation, Pierce County Parks, and the Pierce Conservation District for the third annual FirFest event; and

**WHEREAS**, FirFest is a tree giveaway event and ceremonial tree planting that will take place on November 18, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, trees — wherever they are planted — are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS, of the City of Fircrest, do hereby proclaim** November 18, 2023 as **Arbor Day** in the City of Fircrest and urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day at FirFest on November 18, 2023, to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands; and

**FURTHER**, we urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Passed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023

Brett L. Wittner, Mayor