



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 assist with 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, while Arbor Day is traditionally celebrated in the spring, research has shown that trees planted in the fall have the best opportunity for optimum growth in the Pacific Northwest climate; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fircrest has been recognized for two consecutive years as a *Tree City USA* by the Washington Department of Natural Resources and the National Arbor Day Foundation for our commitment to planting and caring for our city's trees; 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 to host the third annual FirFest – a tree giveaway and ceremonial tree planting event scheduled for November 23, 2024; 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 the fourth Saturday of November as **Arbor Day** in the City of Fircrest and encourage all residents to celebrate Arbor Day by attending FirFest on November 23, 2024, to support efforts to protect and preserve our trees and woodlands; and

FURTHER, we urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and to contribute to the well-being of our community, environment, and future generations.

Passed this 12th day of November 2024

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Reynolds". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shannon Reynolds, Mayor