THE CITY OF FIRCREST

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 is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, trees help combat climate change by reducing topsoil erosion by wind and water, lowering heating and cooling costs, moderating temperatures, cleaning the air, producing life-giving oxygen, providing habitat for wildlife, and serving as a renewable resource that supplies 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 four consecutive years as a ***Tree City USA*** by the Washington Department of Natural Resources and the National Arbor Day Foundation for our ongoing commitment to planting and caring for our city's trees; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fircrest Parks and Recreation Department, together with Pierce County Parks, the Pierce Conservation District, the Tacoma Tree Foundation, and the Kiwanis Club of Fircrest to host the fifth annual FirFest – a tree giveaway and ceremonial tree planting event – on November 14, 2026; 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 third Saturday of November as **Arbor Day** in the City of Fircrest and encourage all residents to celebrate by attending FirFest on November 14, 2026, and supporting efforts to protect and preserve our community's trees and woodlands; and

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

Proclaimed this 10th day of November 2026.

Nikki Bufford, Mayor