

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-32

A RESOLUTION HONORING MARK GARDNER FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM

WHEREAS, Mark Gardner began serving as the Legislative Policy Analyst for the Bellingham City Council office 15 years ago in 2008 and has since been promoted to Senior Legislative Policy Analyst; and

WHEREAS, Mark has made invaluable contributions to the work of the Council Office in those 15 years; and

WHEREAS, Mark demonstrated an especially strong aptitude for working on environmental issues, shepherding the 18-month long Climate Action Task Force, supporting the work of the Lake Whatcom Policy Group, helping to write the Council's ordinance banning single use plastics, and providing research and consultation on many other environmentally focused projects including close work with the Office of Climate; and

WHEREAS, Mark provided essential assistance in the process of establishing the Ground-level Response and Coordinated Engagement (GRACE) program and the Alternative Response Team (ART), both of which have made an enormous impact and will continue to help the residents of Bellingham and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Mark often served as a liaison between Council and our State Legislative delegation, facilitating important collaborative work; and

WHEREAS, Mark acted as the sole staff member in the Council office during multiple periods of staff transitions, sometimes lasting for six months or longer, single-handedly providing support for all seven Councilmembers and providing all the other necessary tasks of daily office operations; and

WHEREAS, Mark's wealth of institutional knowledge and expertise on a wide breadth of subject matter will be greatly missed; and

WHEREAS, Mark's affable manner, subtle humor, and all around good nature was noticed and appreciated by all who worked with him; and

WHEREAS, Mark could never be deterred from his daily bike commute, even in the worst of Pacific Northwest weather; and

WHEREAS, Council wishes Mark the very best in his well-deserved retirement and;

WHEREAS, Council is hopeful that Mark will continue to be active in community issues and is certain that the City of Bellingham will be better for it.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM:

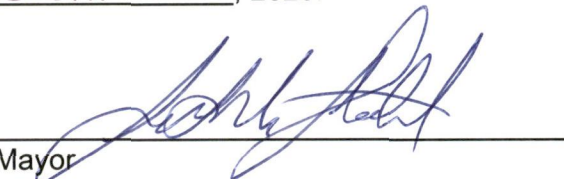
The City Council hereby expresses its appreciation and honors Mark Gardner for his leadership, public service, and dedication to the people of the City of Bellingham and to our wider community.

PASSED by the Council this 11th day of December, 2023.



Council President

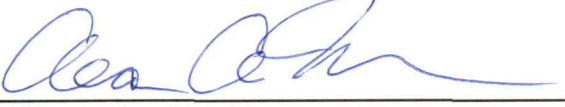
APPROVED by me this 21 day of December, 2023.



Mayor

ATTEST: 

Finance Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Office of the City Attorney