

~ PROCLAMATION ~

- WHEREAS, September is nationally recognized as suicide prevention month; and
- WHEREAS, in the United States, one person dies by suicide every 11.9 minutes resulting in more than 44,000 deaths by suicide annually; and
- WHEREAS, each suicide directly impacts numerous family members, friends, loved ones, leaving over 264,000 newly bereaved each year; and
- WHEREAS, in Washington state, suicide is the first leading cause of death of children between the ages of 10-14; the second leading cause of death for 15-24 year olds; and the eighth leading cause of death overall; and
- WHEREAS, many of those who died did not receive effective care for many reasons including the difficulty of accessing services by healthcare providers trained in best practices to reduce suicide risk, the stigma of seeking treatment and the stigma associated with losing a loved one to suicide; and
- WHEREAS, this tragedy has occurred in our community with too much frequency in recent years; and
- WHEREAS, all citizens can take part in preventing suicide by promoting mental wellbeing and contributing to a culture where individuals are supported and accepted for who they are and where it is okay to ask for help;
- NOW THEREFORE, I, Scott Higgins, Mayor of the City of Camas, do hereby proclaim September, 2017, as:

"National Suicide Prevention Month"

in the City of Camas, and urge all citizens to become educated about suicide prevention and unite against this tragedy for the benefit of our community.



In witness whereof, I have set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Camas to be affixed this 5th day of September, 2017.

Scott Higgins, Mayor