

~ 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, all citizens can take part in preventing suicide by promoting mental well-being 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, Don Chaney, Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Camas, do hereby proclaim **September 2018**, as

***"Suicide Awareness and 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 4<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018.

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Don Chaney, Mayor Pro Tem