

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Fair Trade is an innovative market strategy that promotes fair labor practices and healthy, safe work environments through the production of food and other goods; and

WHEREAS, Fair Trade provides producers with fair prices that translate into livable wages for people and small farmers in developing countries and provides an opportunity to market their products in North America; and

WHEREAS, few Americans realize that many laborers around the world work under abysmal conditions for meager wages and small farmers are vulnerable to volatile market pricing and often receive prices that are less than the costs of production, forcing them into a cycle of poverty and debt; and

WHEREAS, production of Fair Trade goods is achieved through sustainable and ecologically friendly means, thus contributing to the future of a healthy planet for all; and

WHEREAS, as consumers, we have a responsibility to be aware of the impact that our consumption has on the communities that produce the goods we purchase and to make a voluntary choice to purchase Fair Trade goods; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia recognizes that supporting our local economy by purchasing locally and ethically produced goods and services is in keeping with the values of Fair Trade; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia, as Washington State's capital, has the opportunity to lead by example and present a model of social responsibility for other cities and towns to follow;

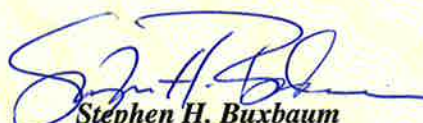
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Olympia will consider procuring local and Fair Trade products and goods when those products and goods are available, meet applicable City standards, and are comparably priced to the alternative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that community members are encouraged to do likewise; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor of Olympia supports the Olympia community's initiative to become a Fair Trade city.

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON this 24th day of April, 2015.




Stephen H. Buxbaum
Mayor