

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, May is national Older Americans Month, and the 2018 theme is “Engage at Any Age;” and

WHEREAS, among more than 200,000 Seattle residents who are age 50 or older, there are some shining examples of older adults who continue to make a difference in their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Rev. Mary Diggs-Hobson, who is on a personal mission to eliminate health disparities experienced by African-American communities;

WHEREAS, Rev. Diggs-Hobson and her son, the late Rev. Reginald Diggs, were moved to co-found the African-American Reach & Teach Health (AARTH) Ministry, due to his experience with chronic kidney and heart disease and HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, for 10 years, as executive director of AARTH, Rev. Diggs-Hobson built partnerships with health clinicians, community service providers, and faith-based organizations in four states; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Diggs-Hobson helped faith community leaders, health professionals, and volunteers listen to community needs and share important health care information by “meeting people where they are;” and

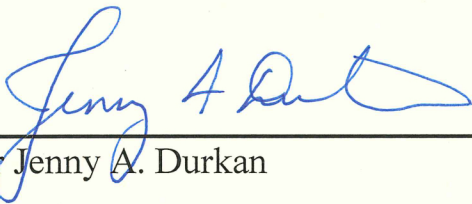
WHEREAS, those who received training were effective in disseminating culturally-competent information about HIV/AIDS care and in teaching chronic disease self-management skills; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Diggs-Hobson recently retired but the model she developed to empower others continues on;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor of Seattle and Seattle City Council recognize

Rev. Mary Diggs-Hobson

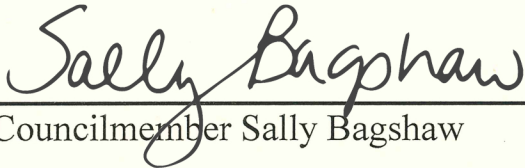
for dedicating her life to inspiring and empowering others to improve the health of people of African descent, now and for generations to come.



Mayor Jenny A. Durkan



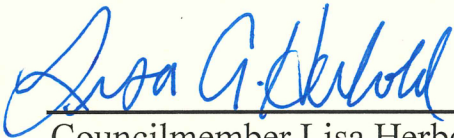
Council President Bruce Harrell



Councilmember Sally Bagshaw



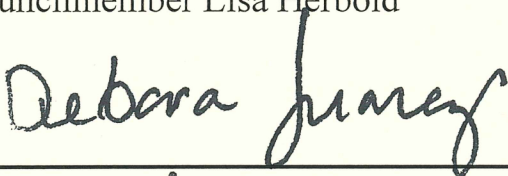
Councilmember Rob Johnson



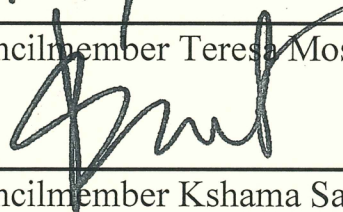
Councilmember Lisa Herbold



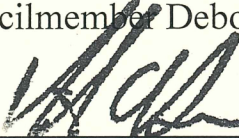
Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda



Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Mike O'Brien