

## PROCLAMATION

- Nuclear weapons are the most devastating weapons ever created by humankind, posing an intolerable risk to human survival. The threat of their use is increasing.
- Ashland's public commitment to end the threat of nuclear catastrophe dates to 1982, when its citizens passed a ballot measure declaring the city a Nuclear Free Zone.
- Ashland became a Mayors for Peace city in 1998, responding to a global invitation from the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to work for the abolition of nuclear weapons. There are currently 7,772 Mayors for Peace cities in 163 nations and regions, including 215 in the U.S. and 7 in Oregon.
- Mayors for Peace enthusiastically supports the new Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, adopted in July 2017 under United Nations auspices. It will enter into force when it has been ratified by 50 states parties.
- In June 2019, the Oregon Legislature passed Senate Joint Memorial 5, calling on the President and Congress to lead global efforts to reduce the threat of nuclear war.
- Also in June 2019, the U.S. Conference of Mayors adopted its 15<sup>th</sup> consecutive annual resolution urging the President and Congress to provide leadership to prevent nuclear war and enter into negotiation to eliminate nuclear weapons.
- During August 6 through August 9, concerned citizens from civic organizations and faith communities in Ashland and the Rogue Valley will commemorate the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, educate each other on new developments, and renew their commitment that such weapons should never be used again.

NOW THEREFORE, THE City Council and Mayor, on behalf of the citizens of Ashland, hereby proclaim August 6, 2019, as:

"Hiroshima Day"

and hereby proclaim August 9, 2019, as:

"Nagasaki Day"

in the city of Ashland, and invite all citizens to participate in the Hiroshima - Nagasaki Vigil activities.

Signed this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019

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John Stromberg, Mayor

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Melissa Huhtala, City Recorder