

Whereas

Whereas, Portland's gardens exist on lands nurtured by Indigenous people where the blooms of native plants are seasonal reminders of their stewardship; and

Whereas, Portland, Oregon is home to more than 15 extraordinary public gardens within its city limits; and

Whereas, Some of these gardens, among them the Portland Japanese Garden, Lan Su Chinese Garden, and the Rose Test Garden are known throughout the world; and

Whereas, Portland sits within the Willamette Valley, home of the world's greatest collection of nurseries and to other public gardens like the Oregon Garden, Bush Pasture Park and Deepwood Museum & Gardens; and

Whereas, In an era of climate change, public gardens serve as respites from heat, repositories for many native plants that are disappearing, and corridors for pollinators, birds, and wildlife; and

Whereas, In times of pandemic, public gardens are places to enjoy beauty and calm while physically distanced; and

Whereas, In times of social unrest, public gardens are places for all Portlanders to reflect and find solace in nature and seasonally changing beauty; and

Whereas, Community volunteers, partner organizations, and City staff work to preserve and enhance our public gardens; and

Whereas, In 2022, Portland will host the American Public Garden Association's annual meeting bringing thousands of public garden experts to our city; and

Whereas, In the spirit of inclusivity, the language of gardens and lessons they teach need no translation.

Now, therefore, I, Ted Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Gardens," do proclaim the month of June henceforth to be

City of Gardens Month

in Portland and encourage all residents and visitors to visit our public gardens.