



Whereas

Whereas, rising costs of higher education and workforce training make registered apprenticeship an increasingly important and affordable career training pathway; and

Whereas, the City of Portland is committed to supporting and growing women's participation in apprenticeship programs; and

Whereas, women, especially women of color, have historically been excluded from apprenticeship opportunities that lead to family-supporting wages; and

Whereas, economic equality for all who live in Portland is measured not only by protection from discrimination, but also by equitable access to quality job opportunities; and

Whereas, apprenticeship is a critical pathway for women of color and white women to participate fully and equally in the country's growing economy; and

Whereas, apprenticeships, particularly in fields like construction where women traditionally have had less access, offer a gateway to the middle class, delivering opportunities for apprentices to earn and learn through structured on-the-job training and to receive credentials for achieving competency; and

Whereas, apprenticeships are partnerships between industry, labor, education, and government with a shared commitment of enhancing career opportunities for thousands of workers to compete in the 21st Century economy; and

Whereas, the City of Portland recognizes Oregon Tradeswomen’s longstanding efforts and commitment to developing high-quality pre-apprenticeship programs and highly skilled workers, especially in the construction trades; and

Whereas, the City of Portland places a priority on the inclusion of women of color and white women in apprenticeship programs leading to careers with family-sustaining wages.

Now, therefore, I, Ted Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the “City of Roses,” do hereby proclaim November 16, 2023, to be

National Women in Apprenticeship Day

in Portland and encourage today’s observance as an opportunity to acknowledge the skills, dedication, and leadership of the many women who improve our city, state, and nation through their contributions in every sector of the workforce.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ted Wheeler', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.