

Whereas

Whereas, the residents of the City of Portland recognize the inherent dignity and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace; and

Whereas, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted by the United Nations on December 10, 1948, is a source of inspiration for National and International efforts to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms; and

Whereas, the City of Portland has created City Codes designed to follow the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and strives to eliminate all forms of discrimination; and

Whereas, Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, declared “The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only legitimate object of good government”; and

Whereas, an essential element of the protection of human rights is widespread knowledge and understanding among people of what their rights are and how they can be defended; and

Whereas, today we pay tribute to the extraordinary vision of the declaration’s drafters and to the many human rights defenders around the world who have struggled to make their vision a reality;

Now, therefore, I, Sam Adams, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the “City of Roses,” do hereby proclaim December 10, 2011 to be

Human Rights Day

in Portland, and encourage all residents to observe this day.