



CITY OF  
PORTLAND

# Whereas

- Whereas,* Slavic and Eastern European Americans are one of Portland's largest immigrant and refugee community, with over 150,000 people in the greater Portland area; and
- Whereas,* Slavic and Eastern European Portlanders can trace their ancestry to 15 countries of the former Soviet Union and 14 Eastern European countries, with unique languages, dialects, cultures, and histories; and
- Whereas,* the City of Portland has many Slavic and Eastern European employees and a Slavic Empowerment Team that works to build a more inclusive and diverse workforce; and
- Whereas,* the Slavic Empowerment Team shares culture, language, and art with City employees through celebrations, displays, performances; and
- Whereas,* the Slavic Empowerment Team collaborates with many diverse organizations in the greater Portland area; and
- Whereas,* The City of Portland strongly aligns with international concerns as to hostilities, loss of life, and suffering in regions such as Eastern Europe and countries like Ukraine; and
- Whereas,* Portland is a welcoming, inclusive, and sanctuary city that celebrates its growing diversity; and
- Whereas,* the City of Portland is proud of its relationship with all members of the Slavic and Eastern European community and will continue supporting their professional and economic advancement;

*Now, therefore,* I, Ted Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses," do hereby proclaim the second week of January 2023 to be the

*Slavic and Eastern European Heritage Week*

in Portland and encourage all residents to celebrate this week.