

Whereas

Whereas, the City of Portland is honored to recognize our men's professional basketball franchise as the 2019-20 season marks the Trail Blazers 50th Anniversary season; and

Whereas, as we take time to honor the rich history of the franchise, we would like to memorialize a beloved moniker of the City of Portland that was born out of an electrifying moment at a Trail Blazers game against the Los Angeles Lakers on February 18th, 1971; and

Whereas, Portland became known as RIP CITY during that game – a phrase founded by the legendary Bill Schonely, the voice of the Trail Blazers from 1970-98, who was inducted into the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame in 1999, and received the Curt Gowdy Media Award from the Basketball Hall of Fame in 2012; and

Whereas, the term Rip City has come to represent a diehard pride and passion for the Trail Blazers and the City of Portland; and

Whereas, we honor the Trail Blazers fans who have transformed Rip City from a nickname into a community, and who contribute to the success of the team and create an incredible atmosphere at the Trail Blazers home games; and

Whereas, we commend the Trail Blazers for the organization's dedication to positively impacting the community of Rip City through the work of the Trail Blazers Foundation, advancing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion work and environmental stewardship; and

Whereas, Rip City brings people together to create lasting memories through the power of sport; and

Now, therefore, I, Ted Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Portland, the "City of Roses," do hereby proclaim February 19, 2020 to be

Rip City Day

In Portland and encourage all residents to observe this day.