

CITY OF
PORTLAND

Whereas

Whereas, small businesses are the backbone of our local economy; and

Whereas, over 94% of all businesses in Multnomah County employ 50 or fewer people; and

Whereas, Portland ranks in the top twenty of large American cities for small business vitality; and

Whereas, for every \$100 spent at local businesses, \$68 returns to the local economy; and

Whereas, small and new businesses have been responsible for creating 2 out of every 3 net new jobs over the last two decades in the United States; and

Whereas, Portland's small businesses create family wage jobs, boost our local economy and strengthen our neighborhoods; and

Whereas, the City of Portland, Oregon, celebrates the leadership of our champions for local small businesses, including Venture Portland, our Business District Associations, the City's Small Business Advisory Council, Voice for Oregon Innovation and Sustainability, our local Chambers of Commerce, the Portland Development Commission, Little Boxes, the Portland Business Alliance, and the Main Street Alliance of Oregon; and

Whereas, the holiday retail season is a critical period for Portland businesses; and

Whereas, local business districts will host more than 50 public holiday events in the next 6 weeks featuring retail sales and festive lights to help Portlanders stretch their holiday dollars and ensure the season is merry and bright; and

Whereas, President Barack Obama has encouraged all Americans to consider Small Business Saturday as a local alternative to Black Friday and Cyber Monday;

Now, Therefore, I, Charlie Hales, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses," do hereby proclaim November 30, 2013 as

Portland Celebrates Small Business

Saturday

and urge the residents of our community to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday, during the holidays and throughout the year.

Charlie Hales

