

## **Vanport Mosaic Proclamation**

**Wednesday, May 23, TC 10:15am**

Whereas, 2018 is the 76th anniversary of the construction of Vanport, the 70th anniversary of the Vanport flood, and the 50th anniversary of the federal Fair Housing Act; and

Whereas, the City of Vanport was once Oregon's second largest city and the nation's largest public housing project, with a peak population of 40,000; and

Whereas, Vanport was home to World War II shipbuilders, a diverse group of people from across the country, twenty-five percent of whom were African-American; and

Whereas, the community had schools, stores, a hospital, a movie theater, and a two-year college; and

Whereas, Vanport was constructed in the Columbia River flood plain and was protected from the river by a series of levees; and

Whereas, the Columbia River flooded on May 30, 1948, immediately displacing its residents; and

Whereas, Portlanders today know the site of Vanport as Delta Park, the Portland Expo Center, Heron Lakes Golf Course, and Portland International Raceway; and

Whereas, Vanport Mosaic is a non-profit community group that honors the history and legacy of Vanport; and

Whereas, Vanport Mosaic will hold a Festival from May 25 – 28, 2018 to honor and celebrate Vanport as an essential and often forgotten chapter in Portland's history;

Now, therefore, I, Ted Wheeler Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses," hereby proclaim May 30, 2018 to be *Vanport Day of Remembrance* in Portland, and encourage all residents to observe this day.