

# Whereas

*Whereas,* Digital Equity means everyone has adequate access and understanding of information and communications technologies regardless of socioeconomic status, physical ability, language, race, gender or any other characteristics linked with unequal treatment; and

*Whereas,* Digital Inclusion is the activities and supports necessary to ensure all Portlanders have opportunities to obtain Digital Equity and to fully participate in education, the economy, healthcare, and civic and cultural life; and

*Whereas,* through the City's Digital Equity Action Plan (DEAP), we learned digital equity for our residents means access to relevant technology training and tech support, affordable or free high-speed internet at home, and affordable computing devices; and

*Whereas,* the Digital Inclusion Network, a consortium of community-based organizations leading the collective effort to provide programs and activities, aligned with DEAP strategic actions and focused on serving our most digitally marginalized residents, such as seniors, those with disabilities, and low-income families; and

*Whereas,* this collective community effort has led to new and unique collaborations and partnerships - such as Multnomah County Library, Free Geek, Home Forward, and MetroEast Community Media collaborating on an Earn-A-Computer program or the City and Home Forward partnering to gain ConnectHome Nation membership; and

*Whereas,* the Digital Inclusion Network's demonstrated ongoing commitment to digital equity has elevated the City of Portland as a national leader in digital inclusion efforts keeping our residents economically and culturally healthy in a rapidly changing communications technology landscape; and

*Whereas,* by participating in Digital Inclusion Week, the City creates a unified national voice for digital inclusion and shows support for our local organizations, public institutions, and businesses on the front lines offering digital inclusion programs;

*Now, therefore,* I, Ted Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses," do hereby proclaim May 7-11, 2018 to be

*Digital Inclusion Week*

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

