~PROCLAMATION~

WHEREAS, Washington generates an estimated 1.1 million tons of food waste annually, including 400,000 tons of edible food disposed in the landfill; and

WHEREAS, Washington's climate and food waste reduction goals include the goal to reduce food waste by 50% by 2030 and to reduce at least half of edible food waste by 2030; and

WHEREAS, Hunger and food insecurity is highly prevalent today, including in Clark County. The Clark County Community Needs Assessment Report found that 87% of survey respondents identified food assistance as a need for their family.

WHEREAS, Up to 35% of all food produced is thrown away rather than eaten. Otherwise safe and nourishing food that is currently thrown away could help feed hungry people if donated; and

WHEREAS, The average household of four people wastes up to \$3,000 per year on food that goes uneaten; and

WHEREAS, We have the opportunity to save shared resources, such as land, water and energy, used to produce, process, store, and transport food that ultimately goes uneaten, and everyone benefits from better utilizing food resources; and

WHEREAS, Clark County has a role in educating the public to prevent food waste, recover edible food, and keep organic waste out of the landfill; and

WHEREAS, Residents across the country and people around the world celebrate Food Waste Prevention Week every April;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Clark County Council hereby proclaim April 7th through April 13th, 2025,

~Food Waste Prevention Week ~

in Clark County, Washington, and encourage all residents to observe this week by taking action to prevent edible food from going to waste.

Signed this 18th day of March 2025.

CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Sue Marshall, Chair, District 5

Glen Pung, District 1

Michelle Hand Michelle Belkot, District 2

Wil Fuentes, District 3

Matt

Matt Little, District 4