WHEREAS, for more than 27 years the National Coalition for the Homeless and the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness have sponsored National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bainbridge Island recognizes that hunger and homelessness continue to be a serious problem for many individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bainbridge Island is committed to making homelessness rare, brief, and one-time in Kitsap County and ensuring that affordable housing is accessible to all Bainbridge Island residents who need it; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this proclamation is to educate the public about the many reasons people are hungry and homeless, including the shortage of affordable housing in Kitsap County and on Bainbridge Island for very low income residents, to encourage support for homeless assistance service providers, and to create community service opportunities for our citizens; and

WHEREAS, there are many organizations committed to sheltering and providing supportive services as well as meals and food supplies to the homeless and hungry, including member organizations of the Kitsap Continuum of Care Coalition and the Kitsap County Foodbank Coalition; and

WHEREAS, the intent of National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is to shed light on the positive efforts of individuals and organizations in our community that are working to assist people with housing, food, employment, and self-sufficiency;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Kol Medina, Mayor of the City of Bainbridge Island, on behalf of the City Council, hereby proclaim November 16 – 23, 2019 as

NATIONAL HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK

in the City of Bainbridge Island and encourage its citizens to recognize that many people do not have access to the basic necessities of life, such as housing and food, and need support from citizens and public and private service organizations.

SIGNED this 12th day of November, 2019.

Kol Medina, Mayor