

# CITY OF SPOKANE



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the community of Spokane is proud to be known as the birthplace of Father's Day, thanks to the tireless efforts of Sonora Smart Dodd, who persuaded all pastors in Spokane to preach a sermon honoring the vital role of fathers and fatherhood on June 19, 1910, and who launched a decades-long campaign that culminated in the national observance of Father's Day as the third Sunday in June by President Richard Nixon in 1972; and

**WHEREAS**, men who take on the solemn duty of fatherhood are vitally important to the growth, development and well-being of children, preparing them to become responsible, grounded and successful adults; and the contribution of fathers as providers, teachers, coaches, counselors, and supporters is often taken for granted; and

**WHEREAS**, our community is indebted to the work of organizations like the Spokane Fatherhood Initiative which helps fathers strengthen their values, character and commitment while also giving them the parenting tools they need to be better dads; and the City of Spokane recognizes that fathers are vital threads in the fabric that makes Spokane a healthy and thriving community:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Nadine Woodward, Mayor of the City of Spokane, on behalf of the citizens of Spokane, do hereby proclaim June 18, 2023 as

### FATHER'S DAY

in Spokane and encourage all citizens to recognize the important role that fathers play in our community and express our gratitude for their many contributions.

I, Nadine Woodward, Mayor of Spokane,  
do hereunto set my hand and  
cause the seal of the City of Spokane  
to be affixed this  
9<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023.

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Nadine Woodward".

Nadine Woodward  
Mayor

