## CITY OF SPOKANE

## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, we believe in the joyful, transformative power of the human-canine bond and inclusivity of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, 70 million adults have a disability and only 16,000 service dogs from accredited training programs exist nationwide and the need is growing; and

WHEREAS, Canine Companions created the concept of service dogs for people with physical disabilities 50 years ago in 1975, creating a new kind of support for disabilities. Canine Companions is a nonprofit organization that enhances the lives of people with disabilities by providing expertly trained service dogs and ongoing support to ensure quality partnerships, free of charge; and

WHEREAS, Canine Companions and their service dogs empower people with disabilities to lead life with greater independence by providing best-in-class training, ongoing follow up services and a deeply committed community of support; and

WHEREAS, National Service Dog Month aims to educate our community about the benefits of service dogs and the laws protecting their handlers. The City of Spokane continues to work toward becoming an inclusive community in which all citizens, and their trained service dogs, are embraced:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lisa Brown, Mayor of the City of Spokane, on behalf of the people of Spokane, do hereby proclaim September 2025 as

## NATIONAL SERVICE DOG MONTH

in Spokane and encourage all residents to celebrate service dogs and be respectful of the rights to safe access in our community afforded to the adults, children, and veterans who lead more independent lives because of their assistance.

I, Lisa Brown, Mayor of Spokane, do hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Spokane to be affixed this 26th day of August 2025.

Lisa Brown Mayor

