## PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, the City of Seattle is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and essential role our homes, buildings and infrastructure play, both in everyday life and when disasters strike; and
- WHEREAS, our confidence in the resilience of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings; and
- WHEREAS, these guardians are dedicated members of the International Code Council (ICC), a nonprofit that brings together local, state, territorial, tribal, and federal officials who are experts in the built environment to create and implement the highest-quality codes to protect us in the buildings where we live, learn, work and play; and
- WHEREAS, these modern building codes include safeguards to protect the public from hazards such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Seattle is committed to developing a robust program to require the retrofitting of unreinforced masonry buildings across the city to protect our community and historic neighborhoods in the event of an earthquake; and
- WHEREAS, Building Safety Month is sponsored by the ICC to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown protectors of public safety—our local code officials— who assure us of safe, sustainable, and affordable buildings that are essential to our prosperity; and
- WHEREAS, in observance of Building Safety Month, the City of Seattle encourages the public to participate in activities; commit to improve building safety, resilience and economic investment at home and in the community; and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus, and federal agencies in protecting lives and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRUCE A. HARRELL, MAYOR OF SEATTLE, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM MAY 2023 TO BE

**BUILDING SAFETY MONTH** 

Mayor Bruce A. Harrell City of Seattle