

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Adiel McKnight, Executive Assistant

DATE: March 13, 2023

SUBJECT: PROCLAMATION re: Declaring the Week of March 13, 2023 as
Sunshine Week

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

The Board will consider approval of the proclamation declaring the week of March 13, 2023 as Sunshine Week. The Board commits to continuing to enhance the public's access to government records and information provided electronically and online, and to ensure that all meetings of deliberative bodies under its jurisdiction, and their committees, are fully noticed and open to the public; and we encourage all people to join in observing the importance of transparency and openness in a free society.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Proclamation re: Declaring the Week of March 13, 2023 as Sunshine Week.

REVIEWED BY:


Mark McCauley, County Administrator

3/8/23
Date

PROCLAMATION

SUNSHINE WEEK

WHEREAS, James Madison, the father of our federal Constitution, wrote that “consent of the governed” requires that the people be able to “arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives”; and

WHEREAS, an open and accessible government is vital to establishing and maintaining the people’s trust and confidence in their government and in the government’s ability to effectively serve the people; and

WHEREAS, the protection of every person’s right of access to public records and government meetings is a high priority of Jefferson County, Washington; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners (BoCC) is committed to openness and transparency in all aspects of county government and seeks to set a high standard in this regard; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson County intends to hold all open public meetings in a hybrid format whenever practical to allow for greater accessibility for the public, and will allow for in-person attendance as physical space and health and safety protocols allow.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners joins members of the news media and many jurisdictions throughout Washington State and our nation in proclaiming the week of March 13-17, 2023, which includes the anniversary of the birth of James Madison, a founder of our federal constitution, as

SUNSHINE WEEK

and during this Sunshine Week and throughout the year, the BoCC commits to continuing to enhance the public’s access to government records and information, to increase information provided electronically and online, and to ensure that all meetings of deliberative bodies under its jurisdiction, and their committees, are fully noticed and open to the public. We encourage all people to join us in observing the importance of transparency and openness in a free society.

PROCLAIMED this 13th day of March, 2023.

JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SEAL:

Greg Brotherton, Chair

ATTEST:

Kate Dean, Member

Carolyn Gallaway, CMC
Clerk of the Board

Heidi Eisenhour, Member