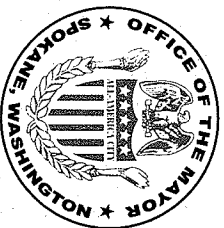


CITY OF SPOKANE



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, over ninety percent of the businesses in the city of Spokane are small locally owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, these businesses are licensed to do business in the city or are located in the city and their business license mailing address is within the city; and

WHEREAS, communities that preserve their one-of-a-kind businesses and enhance their distinctive character have an economic advantage in the marketplace; and

WHEREAS, locally owned businesses build strong communities by sustaining a strong presence, linking neighbors in a web of economic and social relationships, and contributing to local causes; and

WHEREAS, we all have a responsibility, as neighbors and community members, to support and recognize our "homegrown" businesses; and

WHEREAS, May is Small Business Month and the City of Spokane is collaborating with Greater Spokane Incorporated on a launch of the "Locally Owned" program; and

WHEREAS, in Spokane, the "locally owned" recognition program will help to encourage unlicensed businesses to become licensed; and

WHEREAS, local businesses fuel Spokane's economic innovation and prosperity - serving as a key means for families to move out of low-wage jobs and into the middle class;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mary B. Verner, Mayor of the City of Spokane, on behalf of the citizens of Spokane do hereby proclaim the month of May 2009 as

SMALL BUSINESS MONTH

and support the launch of the

LOCALLY OWNED PROGRAM RECOGNITION

in Spokane, encouraging all citizens to participate in the effort to improve the economic worth of our community by supporting local small businesses within the city.

I, Mary B. Verner, Mayor of Spokane,
do herunto set my hand and
cause the seal of the City of Spokane
to be affixed this
11th day of May in 2009.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary B. Verner".

Mary B. Verner
Mayor

