



**WHEREAS**, the 1972 Environmental Protection Agency law, commonly known as the Clean Water Act, gave the EPA authority to implement pollution control programs such as setting wastewater standards;

**WHEREAS**, municipalities are mandated by law to build, maintain, and plan for upgrades to all wastewater facilities, sewer systems, and adjacent systems, so that sewage and wastewater from homes, businesses, and industries are treated before being discharged to bodies of water;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Port Townsend built the Wastewater Treatment and Compost facilities in 1993 to provide vital and mandatory sewage treatment for the health and safety of residents in the City and our environment;

**WHEREAS**, the Port Townsend Wastewater Treatment facility is an enterprise that is self-sustaining and invested in by the approximately 5,000 rate payer accounts who are resident households & businesses in Port Townsend;

**WHEREAS**, The City maintains a collection system of more than 77 miles of sanitary sewer pipe, 120 maintenance holes, 6 lift stations, and 3 emergency generators;

**WHEREAS**, the Port Townsend Wastewater Treatment and Compost Facilities have been in continuous operation, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for 30 years;

**WHEREAS**, the City values the staff who have worked their entire careers at our wastewater treatment facilities, for their commitment to the knowledge and skill needed in operating this vital infrastructure - their expertise, planning, and hard work benefits all of us and protects water quality every day;

**WHEREAS**, the Port Townsend Wastewater Treatment facility has been award-winning since its inception and is now the first recipient of the 25 Years of Outstanding Performance Award from the Washington State Department of Ecology;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, David J. Faber, Mayor of the City of Port Townsend, declare Monday, December 4, 2023, to be

### **Wastewater Treatment Day**

in the City of Port Townsend and encourage all residents to celebrate the essential role of wastewater treatment to our community's health, safety, and environmental wellbeing.

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David J. Faber, Mayor  
December 4, 2023