



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Ridgefield is on the Pacific Flyway which brings millions of birds – like ducks, geese, swans and sandhill cranes – into our airspace during the fall peak migration season. Many of these birds are attracted to the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge to rest and recoup during the long migration, and

WHEREAS, Ridgefield is a growing city in a growing metropolitan area and with growth comes more outdoor lighting; and

WHEREAS, Light pollution drowns out the stars that migrating birds use to navigate and lures them into urban areas where they become disoriented and confused, collide with buildings or fly around in circles until they collapse from exhaustion; and

WHEREAS, Audubon's Lights Out program is a national effort to raise awareness about the impact of light pollution on migrating birds, wasted energy in the form of unshielded light, and preserving our night sky to see the stars; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ridgefield has adopted policies directed at protecting migrating birds, preserving the night-time environment and minimizing light pollution while permitting reasonable amounts of lighting for night-time safety, utility, and enjoyment.


NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON ONSLOW, Mayor of the City of Ridgefield, do hereby proclaim
October 2024 as

"Lights Out Ridgefield Month"

And encourage residents and businesses to extinguish unnecessary exterior lighting every night during peak migration and to get outside to view the night sky.

Dated this 24th day of OCTOBER 2024.

CITY OF RIDGEFIELD


Ron Onslow, Mayor