



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Trails Day on the first Saturday in June recognizes all the incredible benefits that federal, state and local trails provide for healthy recreation, exposure to nature and alternate transportation opportunities; and

WHEREAS, For 10+ years, community surveys, public engagements efforts and focus groups have confirmed that the creation of interconnected trails is a priority for the Ridgefield community; and

WHEREAS, In its Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, the City of Ridgefield committed to the creation of “an interconnected community with a park, trail and greenway system that contributes to the small town character, provides a variety of recreation opportunities and is an integral part of the community;” and

WHEREAS, For 2023, the City is continuing efforts to provide trail connectivity from core community trails to neighborhood, park and commercial destinations. Projects include extending Gee Creek Trail north, work with developers to provide trail linkages in residential areas, and installation of wayfinding trail signage, and

WHEREAS, Ridgefield is observing National Trails Day on June 3 with a community-wide festival to raise public awareness of Ridgefield’s trail opportunities: Ridgefield Big Paddle. Everyone is invited to find their own adventure on a guided paddle along Lake River, a hike onto the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, or an orienteering scavenger hunt and enjoy the festivities on the waterfront.

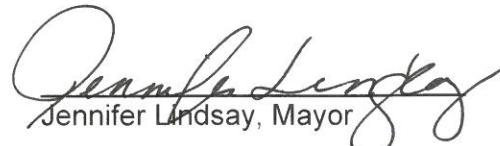
NOW, THEREFORE, I, JENNIFER LINDSAY, Mayor of the City of Ridgefield, do hereby proclaim June 3, 2023 as

“Ridgefield Trails Day”

and encourage hikers, cyclists, equestrians and paddlers to take the National Trails Day pledge to improve a trail by leaving it better than the way you found it.

Dated this 25TH day of May, 2023.

CITY OF RIDGEFIELD



Jennifer Lindsay, Mayor