



CITY OF SEBASTOPOL

Proclamation

Proclaiming August 5th and August 8th as Bells of Peace Days

Whereas, the mornings of August 6 and August 9 in Japan in the year 2020 mark the 75th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, respectively; and

Whereas, the end of World War II, shortly after the bombings, ushered in an era of continual peace between the United States of America and Japan; and

Whereas, in 1956 President Dwight D. Eisenhower with great foresight created organizations like Sister Cities International to carry out the mission of achieving peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation between peoples around the world; and

Whereas, visible proof of this long lasting peaceful relationship between our two countries is present right here in our own city where we have enjoyed a wonderfully enriching cross-cultural relationship with our sister city, Takeo City, facilitated by the Sebastopol World Friends and Takeo World Friends organizations since 1985; and

Whereas, the peaceful relationship between the United States of America and Japan is widespread in that there are over 455 sister city/state relationships between our two countries, including the groundbreaking relationship between Saint Paul, Minnesota and Nagasaki, Japan, which was the first postwar sister city relationship with the United States and an Asian city; and

Whereas, bell ringing has long played a role in the United States, representing peace, and in Japan, where New Year bell ringing marks a new era, and the United States and Japan together have ushered in a new perpetual era of peace,

Now therefore let it be proclaimed that the week of August 5 through August 12, 2020, is proclaimed as "Takeo City-Sebastopol Peace Week" and all people in both cities are urged to commemorate the occasion by participating in a bell ringing ceremony, either individually at home, virtually, or in a safe public location. The City of Sebastopol renews its commitment to Sebastopol World Friends' motto of, "World Peace, One Friend at a Time." It is suggested to ring a bell for 75 seconds or 75 times to commemorate the 75 years of peace between the United States and Japan; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Mayor Slayter, on behalf of the City of Sebastopol Proclaim August 5th and August 8th as Days of Peace and encourage all citizens to ring the Bells of Peace at 4:15pm, Wednesday, August 5 and at 7:02pm, Saturday, August 8. These days and times coincide with 75 years since the actual day and time atomic bombs were dropped at Hiroshima

and Nagasaki, Japan. Ringing the Bells of Peace is a genuine display of our commitment to world peace and to the power of hope.

In witness hereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the Great Seal of the City of Sebastopol this 4th day of August 2020.

Handwritten signature of Patrick Slayter in black ink.

Patrick Slayter

Mayor

DRAFT