PROCLAMATION

ESTABLISHING GDYNIA WEEK IN SEATTLE FOR 2010

- WHEREAS, Seattle, Washington and Gdynia, Poland established a sister city relationship in 1994 through the Seattle-Gdynia Sister City Association, which is charged with promoting educational, cultural, business and charitable exchanges between the city of Gdynia and the greater Seattle area; and
- WHEREAS, in 2009 a partnership was formed between the Seattle-Gdynia Sister City Association, the City of Gdynia, and Washington Business Week to create "Gdynia Business Week," a program in which high school students from Poland participate in a week-long event that focuses on English speaking and business management skills; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Seattle has recognized "Gdynia Business Week" as its 2009 Best Single Project during its annual sister cities' reception, while Sister Cities International, the national organization promoting and overseeing sister city relationships, has recognized "Gdynia Business Week" as its 2009 Innovation: Youth & Education leader; and
- WHEREAS, The Seattle-Gdynia Sister City Association by invitation of Gdynia Mayor Wojciech Szczurek will sponsor Gdynia Business Week in Poland in 2010 with assistance and support from the US Embassy in Warsaw, The Boeing Co, Eastern Europe, The Seattle Trade Development Alliance, Microsoft and, most importantly, the City of Gdynia; and
- WHEREAS, The Seattle-Gdynia Sister City delegation will recognize and honor Solidarnosc, the free and independent trade Union that led the fight for freedom and democracy in Poland, as it celebrates its historic 30-year anniversary in a solemn ceremony in Gdansk Poland on August 30th, 2010;

Now, therefore, be it proclaimed by The Mayor and The Seattle City Council that August 22nd to 28th, 2010, shall be

GDYNIA WEEK

in Seattle, and we hereby urge citizens to join us in celebrating 19 years of exchanges that will continue to broaden and strengthen our friendship for years to come. And, be it further resolved that the City of Seattle send with its Seattle-Gdynia delegation sincere and official congratulations to Solidarnosc on its 30-year anniversary.

Mayor Mike McGinn

Sally Maghaw

Councilmember Sally Bagshaw

Councilmember Sally J. Clark

Councilmember Sally J. Clark

Councilmember Bruce A. Harrell

Councilmember Mike O'Brien

Councilmember Tom Rasmussen