



King County

RECOGNITION

WHEREAS, Nowruz, meaning “new day,” marks the arrival of spring and is celebrated as the first day of the new year at the time of the spring equinox; and

WHEREAS, Nowruz, which has been observed for more than 3,000 years, is recognized by the United Nations as the International Day of Nowruz, and is celebrated by more than 300 million people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Nowruz originated in ancient Persia and is observed today by diverse communities across Iran, Afghanistan, Kurdistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and other regions of Central Asia, the Middle East, South Asia, and the Caucasus; and

WHEREAS, Nowruz represents renewal, hope, resilience, and the universal aspiration for peace and prosperity, and is celebrated through meaningful traditions such as gathering with family and friends, preparing the Haft-Seen table, sharing meals, practicing generosity, and welcoming the spring season; and

WHEREAS, King County is home to vibrant immigrant and refugee communities whose cultural traditions, entrepreneurship, public service, and civic leadership enrich our region and strengthen our shared future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Girmay Zahilay, Executive of King County, do hereby proclaim March 21, 2026 as

NOWRUZ DAY

in King County, and encourage all residents to join in honoring the cultural contributions, traditions, and enduring spirit of the communities who observe this ancient and meaningful holiday.

DATED this 21st day of March, 2026.

Girmay Zahilay
King County Executive