

A Proclamation On the Retirement of Ronald (Ron) E. Bartels

Whereas, Ron Bartels has decided, after 61 years of public service to local governments in California, Oregon, Washington, and Saudi Arabia, to retire and turn things over to us “Kids”; and

Whereas, during those 61 years, Ron has served as the city manager or assistant city manager in eight cities; and

Whereas, when he was not serving in the city manager’s office, Ron worked as a consultant to cities, and

Whereas, during his 13 years as a Public Policy and Management Consultant with the Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC), Ron’s service often went beyond technical information, analysis and advice, to include coaching, reassurance, counseling, and basically “hand holding”; and

Whereas, for the past 8 years, Ron has continued his service (and “hand holding”) to us as an ICMA Senior Advisor and Liaison, and

Whereas, many of us received a phone call or email from Ron checking in on us, and he seemed to sense when we needed a little reassurance, and

Whereas, some of Ron’s imparted wisdom will be re-quoted for years to come; such as “Never apply logic to a political situation”, and “you have to get the Council to learn how to count to four”, and

Whereas, Ron often followed his own sage and practical advice. For example, when Rich Yukubousky complained about how hard it was to clean up his golden retriever’s shedding hair, Ron suggested he do what he and Judy had done when they had golden retrievers: install carpet that matched the color of the shedding hair, and

Whereas, a huge part of Ron’s great strength and longevity in this business is due to his lifelong companion, Judy, and

Whereas, just as Ron provided wisdom and guidance to us city managers, Judy could always be counted on to provide reassurance and perspective to our spouses, and

Whereas, Ron has always been a strong supporter and advocate of professional local government management, and of the Council-Manager form of government in particular, and

Whereas, Ron and Judy have been members of ICMA for 53 of its 103 year history, and

Whereas, Ron and Judy have also been active in California, Oregon and Washington State Associations, and for over 27 years Ron has participated on the WCMA Board and/or helped organize and staff state and regional conferences, and

Whereas, city managers throughout the Northwest have been influenced for the better during Ron's years of service here, and

Whereas, we are honored and humbled by Ron's example and his legacy of service to local governments and he retires leaving huge shoes to fill.

Now therefore the Board of Directors of the Washington City/County Management Association on behalf of all the members of the Association, past and present, do hereby proclaim Wednesday February 15, 2017 to be **Ron Bartels Day** throughout the land, and all the environs thereof, and

Ron Bartels is to be entitled to all the rights and privileges that this proclamation confers.

Approved and Witnessed this 15th Day of February, 2017

David Cline, WCMA President

WCMA Board Members

Derek Matheson

Subir Mukerjee

Cindy Reents

Albert Tripp

Bob Larson

Nadia Chandler Hardy

Scott Spence

Regan Bolli

Steve Taylor

Marie Mosley

Dawn Masko

Gil Alvarado

David Scott