

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISSAQUAH, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING A CULTURAL & RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY CALENDAR FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2022 AND 2023 AND ESTABLISHING A POLICY OF AVOIDING SCHEDULING CITY MEETINGS ON RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL HOLIDAYS WITH SIGNIFICANT WORK RESTRICTIONS.

WHEREAS, as part of the City's commitment to increase diversity and inclusion in our City, the Administration asked the Equity Board to create a list of cultural and religious holidays the City should take into consideration when scheduling public meetings.; and

WHEREAS, a Cultural & Religious Calendar was recommended by the Equity Board at the February 2, 2022 Equity Board meeting; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Religious & Cultural Calendar is to provide a diversity and inclusion tool for City staff by creating a list of important religious and cultural holidays the City should take into consideration and make every effort to avoid scheduling public meetings on; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Religious & Cultural Calendar is also to formalize the City's commitment to diversity and inclusion and help increase awareness of the religious and cultural diversity represented in Issaquah; and

WHEREAS, the Religious & Cultural Calendar was reviewed by the City Council Services, Safety & Parks Committee at the July 19 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to establish a policy of avoiding scheduling City meetings on certain cultural and religious holidays with significant work restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to proceed to adopt the 2022-2023 Religious & Cultural Calendar; NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISSAQUAH, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recognition of Holidays with Significant Work Restrictions. It will be the policy of the City to make every effort to avoid scheduling meetings of City legislative bodies (City Council, Commissions and Boards, Council Committees, Task Forces) and any public meetings, other than those being held to recognize the cultural or religious holiday, on any cultural or religious holiday that incorporates significant work restrictions as identified in the Religious & Cultural Calendar and listed in Exhibit A.

Section 2. Adoption of Religious & Cultural Calendar. The City adopts a Religious & Cultural Calendar for the remainder of 2022 and all of 2023. The 2022 Calendar is attached as Exhibit B.

Section 3. Monitoring. The City commits to receiving feedback on the Calendar in consultation with community members and cultural and religious leaders. The Calendar will be reviewed by City Council Services & Safety Committee in the fall of 2023. The Committee will provide a recommendation to the City Council on changes and adoption of future calendars.

Section 4. This resolution will take effect immediately.

PASSED by the City Council this 6th day of September, 2022.

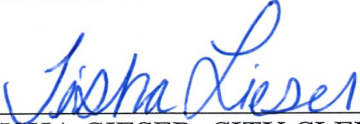

LINDSEY WALSH, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED by the Mayor this 6th day of September, 2022.



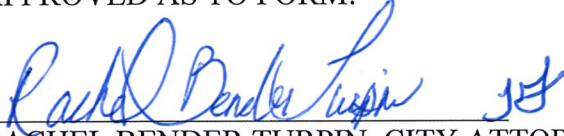
MARY LOU PAULY, MAYOR

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:



TISHA GIESER, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



RACHEL BENDER TURPIN, CITY ATTORNEY

RESOLUTION NO: 2022-11
AGENDA BILL NO: AB 8336

Exhibits:

- A. List of 2022 and 2023 Holidays with Significant Work Restrictions
- B. 2022 Religious & Cultural Calendar

**Remaining 2022 Religious & Cultural Holidays
with significant work restrictions**

September 25–27	Rosh Hashanah/New Year (Jewish)
October 4–5	Yom Kippur/Day of Atonement (Jewish)
October 24	Diwali/Festival of Lights (Hindu, Sikh, Jain, some Buddhist)
October 26	Birth of Báb (Bahá'í)
October 27	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh (Bahá'í)
November 2	Día de los Muertos/Day of the Dead, (Mexican)

**2023 Religious & Cultural Holidays
with significant work restrictions**

January 20	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh)
February 18	Maha Shivaratri (Hindu)
March 6	Magha Puja Day (Buddhist)
March 8	Holi (Hindu)
March 22	Beginning of Ramadan (Islamic)
April 20–22	Last night of Ramadan & Eid al-Fitr (Islamic)*
April 5–13	Pesach/Passover, (Jewish)**
May 25–26	Shavuot (Jewish)
June 28–29	Eid-ul-Adha, Feast of Sacrifice (Islamic)
September 15–17	Rosh Hashanah/New Year (Jewish)
September 24–25	Yom Kippur/Day of Atonement (Jewish)
October 16	Birth of the Báb (Bahá'í)
October 17	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh (Bahá'í)
November 2	Día de los Muertos/Day of the Dead, (Mexican)
November 12	Diwali/Festival of Lights (Hindu, Sikh, Jain, some Buddhist)

*The last 10 days of Ramadan are subject to change based on the sighting of the moon.

**Please avoid meetings on the first and last day of the Passover holiday.

City of Issaquah – Religious & Cultural Calendar 2022

What is the purpose? The intent for creating this calendar is two-fold:

1. To provide a diversity and inclusion tool for City staff by creating a list of important religious and cultural holidays the City should take into consideration and make every effort to avoid scheduling public meetings on.
2. Formalize the City's commitment to diversity and inclusion and help increase awareness of the religious and cultural diversity represented in Issaquah.

How were holidays chosen and prioritized? Due to the extensive number of cultural holidays, the following criteria was applied:

- 1) Priority was given for holidays that pose work restrictions and therefore would limit community members' ability to participate in public engagement.
- 2) Consideration was given to the demographic representation in Issaquah.
- 3) Consideration was given for holidays that provide an opportunity for individual and community reflection, increased awareness and understanding.

Notes & suggestions for scheduling public meetings

1. City Staff should **make every effort to avoid scheduling** public meetings on **religious holidays that** are marked with an asterisk (*) and highlighted in red. These holidays have work restrictions, may require fasting, or may have an utmost significance in one's religion or culture.

2. Additional holidays are included as they provide opportunities to increase awareness and promote the diversity of our communities and are meant to invite respect, understanding, and individual and community reflection. City Staff should **take into consideration these holidays** when scheduling public meetings. Staff may use their own discretion based on the type of meeting, community impact, and desired outcome, and are invited to take a moment to acknowledge the respective holiday.

3. Federal holidays are also included and highlighted in gray.

Continuous updates and improvement

Due to regional and cultural differences, some holidays listed may be celebrated on different dates by individuals of the same faith who come from different regions of the same country or culture. Many holidays are based on the lunar and lunisolar calendars and therefore the dates will vary from year to year. The list below provides the dates for 2022 (Gregorian Calendar).

The list of proposed religious and cultural holidays is not exhaustive, and it is intended to be a live document with ongoing modifications based on community input. We ask for your patience if we missed important dates that apply to your culture or group. If you represent a religious or cultural group who would like to propose the inclusion of a new holiday or if you have suggestions and edits for the proposed list, or other resources that can improve this calendar, please contact Monica Negrila via email at monican@ssaquahwa.gov or call us at (425) 837-3416.

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January 2022				
Date/s:	Day of the week in 2022	Holiday	Religious/Cultural Group	Notes
Jan 1	Saturday	Gantan-sai*	Shinto	*Annual New Year festival of the Shinto religion. Work restrictions.
Jan 1	Saturday	New Year's Day	International	Federal observed holiday. City offices closed.
Jan 6	Thursday	Día de los Reyes (Epiphany/Three Kings Day)	Mexican/Christian	
Jan 7	Friday	Christmas (Julian Calendar)	Christian Eastern Orthodox	Religious holiday following the Julian Calendar as opposed to the Gregorian Calendar.
Jan 9	Sunday	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh*	Sikh	*Religious and public holiday in India. Work restrictions.
Jan 13-17	Thursday – Monday	Lohri, Makar Sankranti, Bihu and Pongal (different festivals in multiple regions of India)	India	Festivals of harvest, widely celebrated in every region
Jan 17	Monday	Martin Luther King Day	United States	Federal observed holiday. City offices closed.
Jan 27	Thursday	Holocaust Remembrance Day	International	

February 2022 – Black History Month				
Date/s:	Day of the week in 2022	Holiday	Religious/Cultural Group	Notes
Feb 1	Tuesday	Lunar New Year	Chinese	Based on the lunar calendar.
Feb 3	Thursday	Setsubun-sai (seasonal division)	Shinto	Based on the lunar calendar.
Feb 14	Monday	Valentine's Day	International	Celebrated in the western culture, however not celebrated by everyone in the community.
Feb 15	Tuesday	The Lantern Festival	Chinese	Based on the lunisolar calendar. Other East & Southeast Asian cultures also

City of Issaquah – Religious & Cultural Calendar 2022

				celebrate the Lantern Festival, for which dates may differ.
Feb 16	Wednesday	Magha Puja Day*	Buddhist	*Religious and public holiday in Thailand, and other Southeast Asian Countries. Work restriction.
Feb 19	Saturday	Day of Remembrance (Japanese Incarceration)	United States	
Feb 21	Monday	Chief's Day	Native American	The Snoqualmie Tribal Administration will be closed in observance of this holiday.
Feb 21	Monday	President's Day	United States	Federal observed holiday. City offices closed.
Feb 25 – March 1	Friday - Tuesday	Ayyám-i-Há (Intercalary Days)	Baha'i	Families may attend festive events and focus on service projects within the community on all four days.
Feb 28 (evening) - March 1	Monday evening - Tuesday	Maha Shivaratri (Festival for Lord Shiva)*	Hindu	*Some community members may fast on this day. Public holiday in India. Work restriction.

March 2022 – Women's History Month | Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Date/s:	Day of the week in 2022	Holiday	Religious/Cultural Group	Notes
Mar 2	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday	Christian	Religious holiday representing the first day of lent in the western Christian religion. Based on Lunar Calendar.
Mar 2 - Apr 14	Wednesday	Lenten Season	Christian	
Mar 8	Tuesday	International Women's Day	International	
Mar 16 - Mar 17	Wednesday - Thursday	Purim	Jewish	
Mar 17	Thursday	St. Patrick's Day	Irish	
Mar 17-18	Thursday - Friday	Holi*	Hindu	*Public holiday in India. Work restriction.
Mar 21	Monday	Naw Rúz (New Day)	Baha'i	Bahá'i New Year

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Mar 21	Monday	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	International	
Mar 21	Monday	Nowruz (Persian New Year)	Iranian	Based on the Persian calendar.
Mar 31	Thursday	César Chávez Day	United States	Federal commemorative day.
Mar 31	Thursday	International Transgender Day of Visibility	International, LGBTQ+	

April 2022 - Holocaust Remembrance Month

Date/s	Day of the week in 2022	Holiday	Religious/Cultural Group	Notes
Apr 2	Saturday	World Autism Awareness Day	United States	
Apr 2 - May 2	Saturday 4/2 - Monday 5/2	Ramadan*	Islamic	*Community members may be fasting from sunrise to sunset. Alternatively, consider not scheduling meetings on the first and last day of Ramadan, and make individual accommodations for staff observing the holiday throughout the month.
Apr 8	Friday	National Day of Silence	LGBTQ+	
Apr 10	Sunday	Ramanavami	Hindu Religion	
Apr 10	Sunday	Palm Sunday	Christian	
Apr 10 - 16	Sunday - Saturday	Holy Week	Christian	
Apr 14	Thursday	Vaisakhi/Baisaki (Birthday of the Khalsa)	Sikh	Punjabi New Year/ Solar New Year.
Apr 14	Thursday	Mahavir Jayanti (Birth Anniversary of Lord Mahavir)	Jainism	
Apr 15	Friday	Good Friday		
Apr 15 - 23	Friday - Saturday	Passover (Pesach)	Jewish	*Work restriction. Major Jewish Holiday. Please consider avoiding meetings on the first and last day of the holiday.
Apr 17	Sunday	Easter		Federal observed holiday. City offices closed.

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Apr 20	Sunday	Ram Navami (birth of Lord Ram)	Hindu community	Fasting is observed throughout the day.
Apr 20 - 21	Wednesday - Thursday	First Day of Ridván	Bahá'í	Begins in the evening of Apr. 20 and ends in the evening of Apr. 21.
Apr 22	Friday	Orthodox Good Friday	Christian Orthodox	
Apr 24	Sunday	Orthodox Easter	Christian Orthodox	
Apr 27 - 28	Wednesday - Thursday	Yom HaSho'ah (Day of remembrance)	Jewish	
Apr 28 - 29	Thursday - Friday	Ninth Day of Ridván	Bahá'í	Begins in the evening of Apr. 28 and ends in the evening of Apr. 29.
Apr 30	Saturday	Día del Niño (Children's Day)	Mexican	

May 2022 – Asian American and South Pacific Islander Heritage Month/ Indian Heritage Month/ Jewish American Heritage Month

Date/s	Day of the week in 2022	Holiday	Religious/Cultural Group	Notes
May 1	Sunday	May Day (International Worker's Day)	International	
May 1 - 2	Sunday - Monday	Twelfth Day of Ridván (Paradise)	Bahá'í	Begins in the evening of May 1 and ends in the evening of May 2.
May 2 - 3	Monday - Tuesday	Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan) *	Islamic	*No meetings should be scheduled on May 2 nd .
May 5	Thursday	Cinco de Mayo	United States / Mexican	
May 5	Thursday	Children's Day	Korea	
May 8	Sunday	Buddha Day / Visakha Puja / Vesek	Buddhist	
May 8	Sunday	Mother's Day	United States	
May 10	Tuesday	Mother's Day	Mexican	It's a very important Mexican Public holiday, please consider when scheduling meetings.
May 24	Tuesday	Declaration of the Báb	Bahá'í	
May 29	Sunday	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'í	
May 30	Monday	Memorial Day		Federal observed holiday. City offices closed.

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June 2022 – LGBTQ+ Pride Month/Caribbean American Heritage Month				
Date/s:	Day of the week in 2022	Holiday	Religious/Cultural Group	Notes
Jun 4 - 6	Saturday - Monday	Shavuot (Festival of the Weeks)	Jewish	*Work restriction.
Jun 5	Sunday	Pentecost	Christian	
Jun 9-13	Thursday - Sunday	Eid-ul-Adha (Feast of Sacrifice) *	Islamic	*No meetings should be scheduled on the first day of Eid al Adha, June 9th.
Jun 12	Sunday	Loving Day	United States	Anniversary of a historic court decision for interracial marriage.
Jun 12	Sunday	Philippine Independence Day	Filipino	
Jun 17	Friday	17th of Tammuz	Jewish	
Jun 19	Sunday	Juneteenth	African American	Federal observed holiday. City offices closed.

July 2022 –French American Heritage Month				
Date/s:	Day of the week in 2022	Holiday	Religious/Cultural Group	Notes
Jul 4	Monday	Independence Day	United States	Federal observed holiday. City offices closed.
Jul 7 - 12	Thursday - Tuesday	Hajj (Pilgrimage)	Islamic	
Jul 13	Wednesday	Dharma Day	Buddhist	
Jul 29 - 30	Friday - Saturday	Muharram (Al-Hijra New Year)	Islamic	Islamic New Year

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August 2022 –				
Date/s:	Day of the week in 2022	Holiday	Religious/Cultural Group	Notes
Aug 5 - 6	Friday - Saturday	Tisha B'Av (the ninth of Av)	Jewish	Day of fasting.
Aug 11	Thursday	Raksha Bandhan (the Bond of protection)	Hindu	
Aug 13 - 15	Saturday - Monday	Obon (The Lantern Festival)	Japanese Buddhist	Also known as the festival of the Dead.
Aug 18 - 19	Thursday - Friday	Krishna Janmashtami (commemorating the birth of the God Krishna)	Hindu	
August 31	Wednesday	Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu festival honoring the God Ganesh)	Hindu	

September 2022 – Hispanic Heritage Month				
Date/s	Day of the week in 2022	Holiday	Religious/Cultural Group	Notes
Sep 5	Monday	Labor Day	United States	Federal observed holiday. City offices closed.
Sep 8	Thursday	Onam (Harvest Festival)	Indian Culture	Annual Malayali festival
Sep 9 - 18	Friday - Sunday	Welcoming Week		
Sep 16	Friday	Mexican Independence Day	Mexican	
Sep 25 - 27	Sunday - Tuesday	Rosh Hashanah (New Year) *	Jewish	*Work restriction.
Sep 26 – Oct 5	Monday - Wednesday	Navaratri/Dassehra (nine nights)	Hindu	

October 2022 – Filipino American History Month/ Italian American Heritage Month				
Date/s	Day of the week in 2022	Holiday	Religious/Cultural Group	Notes
Oct 4 - 5	Tuesday - Wednesday	Yom Kippur* (Day of Atonement)	Jewish	*Day of fasting. Work restriction.

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Oct 4	Tuesday	Double Ninth Festival/ Chongyang Festival/ the Senior's Festival	Chinese	
Oct 6	Thursday	Tribal Recognition Day/Snoqualmie Rights Day	Native American	Snoqualmie Tribal Administration will be close in observance of this holiday
Oct 9 - 16	Sunday-Sunday	Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles)	Jewish	
Oct 10	Monday	Indigenous People's Day	United States	
Oct 11	Tuesday	National Coming Out Day	LGBTQ+	
Oct 12	Wednesday	Día de la Raza (Day of Race)	Latinx/Mexican	
Oct 16 - 17	Sunday - Monday	Shemini Atzeret (Eighth [day of] Assembly)	Jewish	
Oct 17 - 18	Monday - Tuesday	Simchat Torah (Rejoicing of the Torah)	Jewish	
Oct 24	Monday	Diwali (Festival of Lights)*	Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh, Jain	
Oct 26	Wednesday	Birth of the Báb*	Bahá'i	
Oct 27	Thursday	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh*	Bahá'i	
Oct 31	Monday	Halloween	United States	Celebrated in the western culture, however not celebrated by everyone in the community.

November 2022 – Native American Heritage Month				
Date/s	Day of the week in 2022	Holiday	Religious/Cultural Group	Notes
Nov 1	Tuesday	All Saint's Day		
Nov 1 – 2	Tuesday – Wednesday	Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)*	Mexican	*Religious and Work restriction.
Nov 11	Friday	Veteran's Day	United States	Federal observed holiday. City offices closed.
Nov 24	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day		Federal observed holiday. City offices closed. It is also the National Day of Mourning that aims to educate the public about Native Americans in the United States, notably the Wampanoag and other tribes of the Eastern United States.

City of Issaquah – Religious & Cultural Calendar 2022

December 2022 –				
Date/s	Day of the week in 2022	Holiday	Religious/Cultural Group	Notes
Dec 8	Thursday	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	Catholic	
Dec 8	Thursday	Bodhi Day (Rohatsu)	Buddhist	
Dec 12	Monday	Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe	Mexican Catholic	
Dec 16 - 24	Friday - Saturday	Las Posadas (The Inns)	Mexican	
Dec 16 - 24	Friday - Saturday	Simbang Gabi (Night Mass)	Filipino Catholic	
Dec 18 - 26	Sunday – Sunday	Hanukkah (Chanukah) (Dedication)	Jewish	
Dec 25	Sunday	Christmas Day	Christian	Federal observed holiday. City offices closed.
Dec 26 - Jan 1	Monday - Sunday	Kwanzaa (First Fruits)	African American	

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Acknowledgements:

This calendar was a collaborative effort between the City of Issaquah’s Equity Board and the City’s internal Equity Team, with valuable input from religious and cultural groups and community members.

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Cristina Abonce
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