



**CITY OF PORTLAND
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
KATHLEEN M SNYDER, MAYOR**

April 1, 2021

After significant reflection regarding the pre-written proclamation request entitled “Khajoly Remembrance Day”, and its subsequent issuance, I have decided to rescind the Mayoral Proclamation.

I'd like to underscore that the City of Portland, nor I as its Mayor, intended to intervene in this long standing, divisive matter between members of our community.

At this point, everyone engaged in the issue at hand understands that the city's process to review pre-written proclamations has been changed as a result of this particular experience. The Portland Press Herald coverage of the issue [in this article dated February 25, 2021](#) offers insights and opinions from various perspectives. I have heard from, and engaged with, many members of the Portland community who have shared their experiences, feelings and insights. I understand there is longstanding disagreement and conflict. That said, I believe it's in the city's best interest to remove this proclamation from the public record.

I once again apologize for the pain and harm that the issuance of this proclamation has caused, and I remain dedicated to process changes for all proclamation requests which, among other things, includes review for historical accuracy, and unintended consequences.

Just as City of Boston Mayor, Marty Walsh, stated in his decision to rescind a similar proclamation on March 10, 2021, “Our goal when issuing a proclamation is to honor and celebrate the contributions of Bostonians from all walks of life, and not to engage in international matters that can cause pain or divisiveness”. Our goal is the same in the City of Portland.

Kate Snyder