



City of Seattle

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, Ichiro Suzuki is a transcendent figure in the history of baseball and one of the most iconic and influential athletes of his generation, bringing global acclaim to the sport and creating lasting memories for Seattle sports fans by redefining excellence, consistency, and dedication on the field; and
- WHEREAS, Ichiro Suzuki began his professional career with the Orix BlueWave in Japan's Nippon Professional Baseball league, where he earned seven consecutive batting titles, three league MVPs, and became the first Japanese player to reach 200 hits in a season – achievements that helped build a bridge between Japanese and American baseball; and
- WHEREAS, in 2001, Ichiro Suzuki made history by becoming the first Japanese-born position player to play in Major League Baseball, signing with the Seattle Mariners and immediately capturing global attention by winning both the American League Rookie of the Year and MVP awards – a rare and historic feat that energized fans across the world; and
- WHEREAS, over a storied MLB career that included 10 consecutive 200-hit seasons, 10 Gold Glove Awards, 10 All-Star selections, over 3,000 MLB hits, and a single-season hits record of 262, Ichiro Suzuki became known for his unmatched precision at the plate, speed on the bases, and defensive brilliance in the outfield; and
- WHEREAS, Ichiro Suzuki's combined hit total of 4,367 across his Japanese and MLB careers makes him the all-time professional baseball hit leader, a remarkable testament to his durability, preparation, and commitment to his craft – inspiring generations of athletes around the world; and
- WHEREAS, Ichiro Suzuki was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2025 with 99.7% of the vote, becoming the first Japanese-born player ever inducted, while also being enshrined in the Japanese Baseball Hall of Fame the same year – solidifying his legacy as a truly international icon of the game; and
- WHEREAS, Ichiro Suzuki has remained a proud ambassador for Seattle and the Mariners – mentoring young players, continuing to train and serve the organization, and contributing to civic pride and global visibility for our city through his humility, professionalism, and character; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Seattle recognizes Ichiro Suzuki not only as one of the greatest baseball players of all time, but as a cultural ambassador, global trailblazer, and cherished member of our community – exemplifying our One Seattle vision for an equitable, thriving, and innovative city for all.

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRUCE A. HARRELL, MAYOR OF SEATTLE, DO HEREBY
PROCLAIM AUGUST 9, 2025 TO BE*

Ichiro Suzuki Day

Mayor Bruce A. Harrell

