

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City recognizes floods are one of the most common natural disasters in the United States and can happen anytime, threatening life, property and the economy; and

WHEREAS, the City has been experiencing widespread urban flooding due to more recent increase in high intensity precipitation events when constant rainfall comes down in a short period of time associated with climate change; and

WHEREAS, the City has implemented Flood Action Alexandria as a comprehensive initiative to address flooding issues throughout the City through programmatic operations and capital flood mitigation projects in flood prone areas; and

WHEREAS, the City's future flood risk will increase as a result of rising sea levels, increased frequency and intensity of storms as projected by the [City's Environmental Action Plan 2040](#); and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted a resolution on October 22, 2019 declaring a climate emergency, recognizing that climate change poses a grave threat to everyone in Alexandria and around the world; and

WHEREAS, the City joins in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and participates in the NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) whereby city residents purchasing NFIP backed flood insurance receive up to a 20% discount; and

WHEREAS, we invite all Alexandrians to observe Virginia Flood Awareness Week by preparing their homes for floods, adhere to prudent land-use planning, including the purchase of flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program where coverage in basements is recognized as limited; and

WHEREAS, we are committed to strengthening our flood mitigation strategies and management and have established the Flood Action Alexandria initiative to pursue those capital and programmatic solutions; and

WHEREAS, the City Council approved a Resolution on January 26, 2021 to establish an Ad Hoc Stormwater Utility and Flood Mitigation Advisory Group, and approved a Resolution to establish a permanent group on December 16, 2023, to support and advise on the City's flood mitigation efforts;

WHEREAS, we recognize the professional staff from the Transportation and Environmental Services, Department of Project Implementation, Office of Climate Action, and Office of Emergency Management for the important role they play in making our public infrastructure more resilient and safer for residents every day and in times of disaster;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. WILSON, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby recognize March 10 through March 16, 2024 as:

“VIRGINIA FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK 2024”

In the City of Alexandria and hereby commend all persons who are committed to and work toward becoming a more resilient city.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and caused of Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 12th day of March, 2024.

MAYOR JUSTIN M. WILSON
On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk