

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Redevelopment & Housing Authority was created by the City of Alexandria under the authorization by Housing Authority Law, Chapter 1, Title 36 of the Code of Virginia, 1939, for the express purpose of operating the Affordable Housing Program for low and moderate income persons throughout Alexandria, and ARHA commenced operations in the Commonwealth of Virginia, City of Alexandria in the year 1941; and

WHEREAS, safe, decent, sanitary and affordable housing is important to the City of Alexandria in the Commonwealth of Virginia and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, during the 1960s and 1970s, ARHA executed every urban renewal project created, including the Gadsby Commercial Urban Renewal, one of the early urban renewal efforts, included the condemnation and demolition of blighted and dilapidated structures and the redevelopment of the King Street commercial area, including Market Square, Tavern Square and the areas bounded by Fairfax Street and St. Asaph Street. Mudtown was the area encompassing the original TC Williams High School and The Dip was the area of Alexandria south of Duke Street and between Columbus and Patrick. The Alfred Street Baptist Church was also built on land that was part of the Dip Urban Renewal Project; and

WHEREAS, ARHA has become a stellar housing and redevelopment operation and has become a leader in the development and management of mixed income housing and the ability to own a home or secure an affordable rental unit is important to improving the overall quality of life for Alexandrians; and

WHEREAS, ARHA provides an array of supportive services in the effort to provide residents with opportunities for self-sufficiency and economic empowerment; and

WHEREAS, a healthy housing industry provides families with affordable housing opportunities, the chance to build equity, strengthens the tax base, creates jobs, opens the doors for further growth and development, and is important to the economic development in the City of Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Redevelopment & Housing Authority have provided eligible applicants with diverse housing opportunities through their many and varied programs, and continued partnerships between the financial institutions and housing developers will ensure the creation of new affordable housing opportunities for residents in Alexandria, and ARHA finds that it is in the public interest and essential to the public health and welfare to encourage home ownership.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim ARHA as a leader in the planning, developing and managing of affordable, mixed income housing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 24th day of June, 2014.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC City Clerk