

RESOLUTION NO. 2985

Resolution to Commemorate Alexandrians lost to the COVID-19 Pandemic

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the novel Corona virus (COVID-19) outbreak a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, this past year has been challenging for the world, our nation, and the City of Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has upended life as we know it, with its devastating effect on our physical and mental health, and on our social and economic wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, we enter the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the death toll from the COVID-19 pandemic has surpassed 2.8 million worldwide and claimed over 550,000 American lives; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Alexandria, we have lost approximately 128 beautiful souls to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria values every life as precious and considers even one life lost as one too many; and

WHEREAS, we mourn this tragic loss, and we reflect on and share the sorrow and pain of those who have lost a loved one to COVID-19.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA THAT:

1. The City of Alexandria remembers and honors the 128 individuals who have died due to this pandemic, and supports initiatives to honor them, including the establishment of a memorial at Rivergate Park on the Potomac, 2 Montgomery Street, sponsored by North Old Town Independent Citizens' Association, the Old Town North Community Partnership, and private donors. The memorial will be composed of small white flags, each representing an Alexandria resident who has died of COVID-19, that will be displayed from April 16 through June 21, 2021; and
2. As we look to the future, the City of Alexandria remains committed to the wellbeing and safety of its residents and employees by providing resources for testing, contact tracing, and administration of vaccines. We are very hopeful that through vaccination, the ongoing efforts of our medical professionals, and the actions being taken by members of the community, such as wearing face masks, washing hands and social distancing, we will stop the spread and continue to save lives; and
3. In accordance with the ALL Alexandria Resolution, the City of Alexandria remains mindful that certain groups in our community are disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 virus and, therefore, the City remains committed to addressing health inequities and to providing crucial information in multiple formats and languages.

Adopted: April 6, 2021



JUSTIN M. WILSON MAYOR

ATTEST:



Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk