

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, in June of 1969, patrons and supporters of the Stonewall Inn in New York City defied an unjust policy and stood up to actively resist the harassment and persecution to which LGBTQ+ people were commonly subjected; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alexandria is proud to remember inspiring and brave leaders who fought for justice and dignity, as well as the allies who supported them, and celebrate the current leaders forging ahead; and

**WHEREAS**, in the spirit of those historic leaders and in continuing the work for equity, the Alexandria LGBTQ+ Task Force provides an inclusive forum where LGBTQ+ people and allies gather quarterly to network, share ideas, and plan training and community events. Housed in the Department of Community and Human Services with a membership made up of employees from departments across City government, representatives from community non-profit organizations, and Alexandria LGBTQ+ residents, the enduring goal of the Task Force since 2007 is to create safe and inclusive service provision in the City of Alexandria that affirms a person's sexual orientation and gender identity; and

**WHEREAS**, today, the rights of LGBTQ+ people across the nation and world are under relentless attack. Members of the LGBTQ+ community - especially people of color and transgender people - continue to face discrimination and cruel, persistent efforts to undermine their human rights; and

**WHEREAS**, while in some communities LGBTQ+ people, particularly transgender youth, are increasingly demeaned, diminished, and targeted by legislation, policy, and action; Alexandria City leaders, employees, and community members support, uplift, and provide inclusive services and a safe, nurturing environment so that LGBTQ+ people can flourish; and

**WHEREAS**, for the third consecutive year the City of Alexandria achieved the maximum possible score of 100 on the 2022 Municipal Equality Index (MEI), a national assessment by the Human Rights Campaign of LGBTQ+ equality in municipal policies, laws, and services. Alexandria is one of only 120 cities across the U.S. to receive the top score; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alexandria reaffirms our commitment to supporting LGBTQ+ people and strengthening LGBTQ+ rights because they are human rights.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. WILSON**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby recognize June 2023, as:

### **“LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH”**

*In the City of Alexandria, I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

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

ATTEST:

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Gloria A. Sitton, CMC    City Clerk