PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, our city is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and essential role our homes, buildings and infrastructure play, both in everyday life and when disasters strike; and

WHEREAS, our confidence in the resilience of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of the vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals and others in the construction industry, who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings; and

WHEREAS, building safely and fire prevention officials in the City of Alexandria work together with such organizations as the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, the International Code Council, the Virginia Building and Code Officials Association, the Virginia Fire Prevention Association, the International Association of Electrical Inspectors, the Virginia Plumbing and Mechanical Inspectors Association, and the Women in Code Enforcement and Development to educate the public about the role that building and fire prevention codes play in protecting lives and property; and

WHEREAS, Building Safety Month is to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown protectors of public safety—our local code officials—who assure us of safe, sustainable and livable buildings that are essential to our health and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, "It Starts with You," the theme for Building Safety Month 2023, encourages us all to raise awareness about building safety on a personal, local and global scale; and

WHEREAS, each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, people all over the world are asked to consider the commitment to improve building safety, resilience and economic investment at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments and agencies in protecting lives and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. WILSON, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2023, as:

"BUILDING SAFETY MONTH"

In the City of Alexandria, and I encourage our citizens to join with their communities in participation in Building Safety Month activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I* hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 9th day of May, 2023.

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

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk