P R O C L A M A T I O N

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

WHEREAS, *the City has been experiencing widespread urban flooding due to 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 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; and*

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, ALYIA GASKINS, *Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby recognize March 9 through March 15, 2025, as:*

"VIRGINIA FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK 2025"

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 the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 25th day of March 2025.*

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MAYOR ALYIA GASKINS
On behalf of the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

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Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk