

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, in the early 20th century, polio was one of the most feared diseases in industrialized societies, paralyzing hundreds of thousands of children every year and although polio has been eradicated from most counties, it continues to affect the most marginalized and poorest people in less developed countries in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, if we do not completely eradicate this highly infectious disease by promoting and ensuring vaccination of all children in every country, there is the distinct possibility that polio can reappear in industrialized societies in the coming decades; and

**WHEREAS**, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative was begun by Rotary International and the World Health Organization in 1988 and today is a public-private partnership led by national governments with five core partners, the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; and

**WHEREAS**, on World Polio Day, thousands of Rotary clubs around the world hold events to commemorate the birth of Dr. Jonas Salk who developed the first vaccine for poliomyelitis and to recognize the progress of the millions of dedicated volunteers who are continuing to fight to end polio; and

**WHEREAS**, the Rotary Club of Alexandria Central is proud to join Rotary Clubs around the world in celebrating this auspicious day.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. WILSON**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby recognize October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as:

### **“WORLD POLIO DAY”**

*In the City of Alexandria and 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

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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*