

# PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the idea of International Women’s Day goes back to February 1909 in New York City where women socialists and suffragettes proclaimed a day of international solidarity with a prophetic focus on global women’s rights; and

WHEREAS, currently there are women serving locally in leadership positions, inspiring the continued work in advancing the rights, opportunities, and full participation of women and girls of all backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, women play a vital role in worldwide social, economic, cultural, and political development; and

WHEREAS, women continue to struggle against discrimination, whether it is a barrier to education, a pay gap at work, higher premiums for health insurance, inadequate options for family leave, or physical or sexual abuse or violence; and

WHEREAS, March 8th is International Women’s Day; a day to celebrate the collective power of women – past, present, and future – and a day to uphold women’s achievements, recognize women’s challenges, focus greater attention on women’s rights and gender equality, and encourage and mobilize all people to do their part to bring about positive change; and

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia wishes to take this opportunity to *Inspire Inclusion* by reaffirming our commitment to creating a world where all women are empowered, valued, and included, celebrating the diversity of people within our city, learning from the women of our community about their experiences and aspirations, and using this day to commit ourselves to respect the rights of women to lead secure, creative, healthy, and free lives; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barbara Buffaloe, Mayor of the City of Columbia, Missouri do hereby proclaim Friday, March 8, 2024 as

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

in the City of Columbia, Missouri.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed hereto the seal of the City of Columbia, this 8th day of March, 2024.



Barbara Buffaloe, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sheela Amin, City Clerk

