



Proclamation

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ History Month celebrates and commemorates those who fought for equal rights and services for the LGBTQ community; and is a means of educating others, promoting a culture of acceptance and inclusivity, and advancing equality for all; and

WHEREAS, the path towards LGBTQ equality has been paved by courageous persons who have fought for the right to love and be loved, and their positive societal contributions of advancing areas of diversity, inclusion, equity, and deserve recognition; and

WHEREAS, while society at large increasingly supports LGBTQ equality, it is essential to acknowledge that the need for education and awareness remains vital to end discrimination and prejudice; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gastonia endeavors to eliminate prejudice wherever it exists, recognize the multitude of identities that make each of us unique individuals, and envision a safe, inclusive world that allows all members of our community to live openly and truthfully; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ History Month is intended to celebrate the history of the diverse and beautiful lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community and the importance of civil rights movements in progressing rights for all.; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gastonia is proud of its diverse community; committed to equality for all; and engages with community partners to advance equity and inclusion and foster a sense of belonging for the LGBTQ community.

THEREFORE, I, Walker E. Reid III, Mayor of the City of Gastonia and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, do hereby proclaim the month of **October 2022** as

LGBTQ+ History Month

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this fourth day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-two.

Walker E. Reid III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Suzanne J. Gibbs, City Clerk