



Proclamation

WHEREAS, our nation is founded on the principle of equal rights for all people, yet many Americans have struggled to see the fulfillment of that promise and some of the most inspiring moments in history have arisen from civil rights movements that have brought one group after another from the margins to the mainstream of American society; and

WHEREAS, in the movement toward equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people, a historic turning point occurred on June 28, 1969 in New York City when the Stonewall Riots occurred. During these riots, LGBT citizens opposed discriminatory laws that have since been declared unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, LGBT pride celebrations have taken place around the country every June to commemorate the Stonewall Riots and June is celebrated as LGBT Pride Month nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Gastonia has a diverse LGBT community that includes people of all ethnicities, religions and professions; and

WHEREAS, everyone should be able to live without fear of prejudice, discrimination, violence and hatred based on race, religion, gender identity or sexual orientation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Walker E. Reid III, Mayor of the City of Gastonia and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, hereby proclaim **June 2018 as Pride Month** in Gastonia and urge all residents to respect and honor our diverse community and celebrate and build a culture of inclusiveness and acceptance.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 19th day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.

Walker E. Reid III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sherry H. Dunaway, City Clerk