



Proclamation

WHEREAS, John M. Rivers and wife, Martha Elizabeth Robinson Rivers and their children, John M. Rivers, Jr., Elizabeth Craig Rivers Lewine and Martha Robinson Rivers Ingram have demonstrated a strong belief in giving back to the community; and,

WHEREAS, as part of those past philanthropic efforts John M. Rivers, Jr., Elizabeth Rivers Lewine and Martha Rivers Ingram have donated real property within the City of Gastonia to the Gaston County Board of Education for the construction of schools and to the County and City governments for the construction of park facilities all for the use and benefit of the citizens of the City of Gastonia and Gaston County; and,

WHEREAS, portions of that real property are currently being enjoyed by the Citizens of the City of Gastonia and Gaston County as Martha Rivers Park; the John C. Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church; and the Robinson Elementary School; and,

WHEREAS, John M. Rivers, Jr., through the Riverwood Development Corporation, has again demonstrated his family's commitment to giving back to the community with a new donation of approximately 14 acres of real property to the City of Gastonia; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Rivers' donation of real property has been made in honor of Mr. Rivers' mother, Martha Elizabeth Robinson Rivers, his grandparents, John Craig Robinson and Ola Stowe Craig Robinson, his sisters Martha Robinson Rivers Ingram and Elizabeth Craig Rivers Lewine, former Mayor, John D. Bridgeman, long time family attorney Lin B. Hollowell, Jr., and all of the Robinson/Craig descendants;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Walker E. Reid, III, Mayor of the City of Gastonia and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, hereby express our thanks and appreciation to **Mr. John M. Rivers, Jr. and the Rivers family** for their outstanding leadership and philanthropy in our community, county and state.

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

Walker E. Reid III, Mayor

Attest:

Sherry H. Dunaway, City Clerk