Office of the City Commission PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the land of Israel, birthplace of the Jewish people, is where the Jewish people first attained their spiritual, religious and national identity, creating cultural values of universal significance and giving the world the eternal book of books; and

WHEREAS, Jewish immigrants to America, ever since their first arrival to our shores in the 16th century, have played a central role in the creation, growth, freedom, prosperity, and strength of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, on May 14, 1948, Israel's first prime minister David Ben-Gurion publicly read the declaration of independence of Israel, and every year this event is commemorated on Israel's Independence Day, also known as Yom Ha'atzmaut, which is also celebrated in the United States; and

WHEREAS, for 42 years, every President of the United States has declared a period of time for celebrating the contributions of the Jewish community's history, heritage, and culture; and since 2006, the month has been presidentially declared to be Jewish American Heritage Month, pursuant to a bipartisan resolution of Congress; and

WHEREAS, antisemitism has been rising at an alarming rate in our country, and many of our cities have experienced an increase in antisemitic incidents. The resurgence of this ancient hatred is a threat not only to Jewish people but to all of us. As leaders of America's cities, we must create the conditions that allow our communities to be safe, healthy, and vital. By bringing Jewish American Heritage Month to the forefront, we offer hope and optimism through the celebration of the vibrant heritage of Jewish Americans who have enriched our country and our communities for hundreds of years; and

WHEREAS, Jewish American Heritage Month, lets us join hands across faiths, races, and backgrounds to make clear that evil, hate, and antisemitism will not prevail. Let us honor the timeless values, contributions, and culture of Jewish Americans, who carry our Nation forward each and every day.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY that the month of May 2024 shall be recognized as

"JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great Seal of the City of Cooper City, Broward County, Florida, to be affixed on this 14th day of May, 2024.

GREG ROSS Mayor, City of Cooper City