



**WHEREAS**, freedom of Religion holds distinction as a cherished right and a foundational value upon which the laws and ethics of the United States are based; and

**WHEREAS**, enriched by unparalleled diversity of its residents, Cooper City takes great pride in supporting individual religious freedoms and is strengthened by the many varied cultural traditions of its diverse population, including those of American Muslims; and

**WHEREAS**, the history of Islam in this country dates back to before its founding, originating with enslaved Africans who brought their Muslim belief with them to the Americas and who later contributed in numerous ways to the founding of the nation, and there are today millions of American Muslims, both immigrants and native-born, of diverse backgrounds and belief; and

**WHEREAS**, residents in Broward County currently represent 208 countries and speak 181 languages. American Muslim students, staff and community are part of this growing diversity; and

**WHEREAS**, Although American Muslims within Broward County strive to promote peace and understanding between all faiths, identities and nationalities while upholding those values and principles that define the American people, harassment and discrimination still exists; and

**WHEREAS.** it is therefore appropriate to acknowledge and promote awareness of the myriad of invaluable contributions of American Muslims in Broward and across the country, and extend to them the respect and camaraderie every American deserves.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Greg Ross, Mayor of the City of Cooper City, Broward County, Florida, and the City Commission, do hereby extend support of

## " Muslim American Heritage Month April 2024"

**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 9th day of April, 2024.

GREG ROSS

Mayor, City of Cooper City

