

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, parks and recreation are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including the City of Forest Park: and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation promote health and wellness, improving the physical and mental health of people who live near parks; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation promote time spent in nature, which positively impacts mental health by increasing cognitive performance and well-being, and alleviating illnesses such as depression, attention deficit disorders, and Alzheimer's; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation encourage physical activities by providing space for popular sports, hiking trails, swimming pools, and many other activities designed to promote active lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation are a leading provider of healthy meals, nutrition services, and education; and

WHEREAS, park and recreation programming and education activities, such as out-of-school time programming, youth sports, and environmental education, are critical to childhood development; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation increase a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation are fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation are essential and adaptable infrastructure that make our communities resilient in the face of natural disasters and climate change; and

WHEREAS, our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, the Forest Park Governing Body proudly recognizes that July is recognized as Park and Recreation Month in the City of Forest Park.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand on this 7th day of July 2025 and have caused the Official Seal of the great City of Forest Park to be affixed hereto:

Angelyne Butler, MPA Mayor

Councilmember Kimberly James Ward 1

Councilmember Hector Gutierrez Ward 3

Councilmember Delores A. Gunn Ward 2

Councilmember Latresa Akins-Wells Ward 4

Councilmember Allan Mears Ward 5