

PROCLAMATION

- **WHEREAS:** The City of Forest Park has a long-standing commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, as well as a strong belief in the civil and constitutional rights of all individuals across our great nation, and;
- **WHEREAS:** As part of the city's ONE Forest Park Initiative, it should be known that no matter your age, race, creed, gender or sexual orientation, individuals should be treated with respect and dignity and able to live without fear no matter who they love, and;
- **WHEREAS:** Nationwide, Gay Pride events are held during the month of June to commemorate the 1969 Stonewall riots that were sparked in response to ongoing police harassment of New York's gay community, and;
- **WHEREAS:** Many of the residents, business owners, students and city employees who contribute to the enrichment of our city are a part of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ+) community, and;
- **WHEREAS:** The long battle for inclusion has led to much positive progress toward changing the hearts and minds of people in many parts of the world, which in turn, has helped pave the way for a more inclusive society where LGBTQ+ individuals can live freely, safe and free from discrimination.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council of Forest Park hereby recognizes the month of June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Pride Month and invites everyone to reflect on ways we all can live together through mutual respect and understanding.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand on this 20th day of June 2023 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 Dabouze Antoine Ward 2

Councilmember Latresa Akins-Wells Ward 4

Councilmember Allan Mears Ward 5