



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the first Pride was a riot at the Stonewall Inn on June 28, 1969; and fifty years later, on June 26, 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that same-gender couples could marry, establishing a new and long overdue civil right in our country; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Fort Collins community who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, two spirit, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQ+) deserve more than civil rights: they deserve to be fully welcomed, to be safe, and to live in our community without the threat of violence, marginalization, erasure, discrimination, or harassment; and

**WHEREAS**, the fight for dignity, belonging, and equity for LGBTQ+ people is reflected in the dedication of advocates, allies, and local organizations such as SPLASH, PFLAG, Eclectic, and the Colorado State University Pride Resource Center; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's PRIDE Employee Resource Group formed to ensure LGBTQ+ people are safe, valued and affirmed within the organization and community, and their work has elevated the Fort Collins Municipal Equality Index from 60 to 100 over the last several years; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council recently updated Chapter 13 of the City Code to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression; and

**WHEREAS**, we invite our community to celebrate the hard-fought victories of the LGBTQ+ community; and also acknowledge that more work remains in order to achieve full equality, inclusion, representation, and acceptance; and

**WHEREAS**, the City would like to make clear to our LGBTQ+ community: you are valued, you are worthy of celebration, and you should always feel proud of who you are; and to honor the many June LGBTQ milestones and encourage Fort Collins to celebrate diversity and inclusion, rainbow lights will be lit at City Hall throughout the month of June.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Jeni Arndt, Mayor of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby declare the month of June 2023 as

## LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 6th day of June, 2023.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Chief Deputy City Clerk