PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING APRIL 2024 AS AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH IN THE CITY OF MADISON HEIGHTS

WHEREAS, autism is a pervasive developmental disorder affecting the social, communication and behavioral skill of those affected by it; and

WHEREAS, as more health professionals become proficient in diagnosing autism, more children are being diagnosed on the autism spectrum, resulting in rates as high as 1 in 54 children nationally and over 50,000 individuals in Michigan alone; and

WHEREAS, while there is no cure for autism, it is well-documented that if individuals with autism receive treatment early in their lives, it often is possible for those individuals to lead significantly improved lives; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families affected by autism know, acceptance is often one of the biggest barriers to finding and developing a support system; and

WHEREAS, to foster acceptance to ignite change through improved support and opportunities in education, employment, accessible housing, affordable health care and comprehensive long-term services so that individuals and their families are encouraged to live full, quality of lives through connection and acceptance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and the Council of the City of Madison proclaim

APRIL 2024 AS NATIONAL AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

in the City of Madison Heights and urge all employees, residents and members of the business community to bring #Autism2Light and #CelebrateDifferences during National Autism Acceptance Month.

Roslyn Grafstein

Mark Bliss Mayor Pro Tem

Councilman

David M. Soltis

Councilor

Sean D. Fleming

Councilman

Emily J. Rohrbach

Councilor