



The Office of the Mayor
PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** In the United States, more than 70 million adults and children have a disability and only 16,000 service dogs from accredited training programs exist nationwide and the need is growing; and,
- WHEREAS,** Canine Companions is a nonprofit organization that enhances the lives of people with disabilities by providing expertly trained service dogs and ongoing support to ensure quality partnerships; and,
- WHEREAS,** service dogs empower people with disabilities to lead life with greater independence by providing best-in-class training, ongoing follow up services and a deeply committed community of support; and,
- WHEREAS,** National Service Dog Month aims to educate our community about the benefits of service dogs and the laws protecting them; and
- WHEREAS,** In the 250th year of our nation, the City of Meridian, Idaho strives to be a community in which all citizens, and their trained service dogs, are embraced.

THEREFORE, I, Mayor Robert E. Simison, hereby proclaim September 2026 as

National Service Dog Month

in the City of Meridian and encourage all citizens to celebrate service dogs and be respectful of the rights to safe access to our community afforded to the adults, children and veterans who lead more independent lives because of their assistance.

Dated this 8th day of September, 2026

A blue ink signature of Robert E. Simison, written in a cursive style, positioned above a horizontal line.

Robert E. Simison, Mayor

John Overton, City Council President
Anne Little Roberts, City Council Vice-President
Brian Whitlock, City Council
Liz Strader, City Council
Doug Taylor, City Council
Luke Cavener, City Council

