



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The Americans with Disabilities Act, one of the most important civil rights laws in our history, was passed by the U.S. Congress on July 26, 1990, to ensure the civil rights of citizens with disabilities;
and

WHEREAS, The Americans with Disabilities Act was the world's first comprehensive declaration of equality for people with disabilities. The impact of the ADA has been immense, enabling millions of people to fully participate in society while being protected by federal law from discriminatory practices;
and

WHEREAS, The City of Whitewater strives for inclusion in every corner. It is in the same spirit that we observe Disability Pride Month during the anniversary of the ADA and celebrate the neurodiversity and disability that resides in the City of Whitewater; and

WHEREAS, Disability Pride Month builds on the celebration of the law, by celebrating something just as important: the visibility, contributions, and accomplishments of the disability community. Disability Pride Month serves to amplify the voices of those with disabilities to help lift one another for their uniqueness; and

WHEREAS, Disability Pride empowers those with disabilities to define their own identity, reshape false negative perceptions of those with disabilities, and serve as a tool to tackle *ableism that is still all too common today*; and

WHEREAS, It is important that our neighbors with disabilities know that we value them and the contributions they make towards moving the City of Whitewater forward. Our vision to become the healthiest county in the state includes working to meet the needs of the disability community and ensure that the community is elevated by the services we provide;

Now, therefore I, John Weidl, City Manager for the City of Whitewater, do hereby proclaim July 2026 as Disability Pride Month in City of Whitewater. to promote equality and civil rights among those with disabilities, and to celebrate those who make up the disabled community.

John S. Weidl

City Manager for the City of Whitewater