



**Proclamation No. 19-1214
In Support of the Plan for the High Line Canal**

WHEREAS, the High Line Canal, owned by Denver Water, is a nearly 150-year-old, 71 mile irrigation canal and recreational trail stretching from Waterton Canyon in the foothills to the plains near the Denver International Airport; and

WHEREAS, the High Line Canal is vitally important to the region’s residents and environmental health with over 350,000 people residing within one mile of the Canal, and more than 500,000 people using the Canal each year; and

WHEREAS, through unprecedented interjurisdictional collaboration, Denver Water, the City & County of Denver, Douglas County, Highlands Ranch Metropolitan District, the City of Littleton, the City of Centennial, Arapahoe County, South Suburban Parks and Recreation District, the City of Greenwood Village, the City of Cherry Hills Village, and the City of Aurora have worked together in recognition of the need to plan for the future of the Canal; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, these cities, counties and agencies joined with the High Line Canal Conservancy to support an extraordinary and diverse public outreach process reaching over 100,000 people, and engaging over 3,500 residents resulting in the regionally supported 2017 High Line Canal Community Vision Plan; and

WHEREAS, after an 18-month process, The High Line Canal Conservancy, the City and County of Denver, Denver Water, and committed local governmental partners, have created The Plan for the High Line Canal: *A Collaborative Framework for Our Regional Legacy* (“The Plan”); and

WHEREAS, The Plan represents a community vision to honor, enhance and repurpose a landmark of our agricultural heritage into one of our region’s premier green spaces connecting neighborhoods and people to nature and each other; and

WHEREAS, The Plan’s highest purpose is to safeguard the historic waterway while reclaiming the Canal as a regional greenway for future generations. The Plan lays out strategies and clear guidance for re-purposing the Canal, improving the health of people and the environment, and increasing accessibility and enjoyment for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, The Plan provides guidance for intergovernmental collaboration and a framework for how, through cooperation along with public and private partnerships, we can implement The Plan and fulfill the community vision for the Canal; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1: That the City and County of Denver endorses The Plan for the High Line Canal, agreeing to preserve, protect and enhance the Canal for future generations.

Section 2: That the City and County of Denver is committed to a shared regional vision for the future of the High Line Canal as set out in The Plan for the High Line Canal, a visionary and collaborative roadmap toward a vibrant future for the historic waterway.

Section 3: That the City and County of Denver supports the objectives of The Plan, which are:

- a. Health, Safety, and Experience: A Welcoming Refuge for People
- b. Environmental Health: A Thriving Natural Corridor
- c. Honor and Repurpose: Innovative and Sustainable Infrastructure Reuse
- d. Accessibility and Connectivity: A Regional Community Commons

Section 4: That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL November 4, 2019

PRESIDENT