

# PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

## **Proclamation No. 22-0338 In Support of the Ukrainian People and Condemning the Russian War on Ukraine**

**WHEREAS**, Ukraine declared its independence from the Soviet Union on Aug. 24, 1991, and was recognized by the United States as a sovereign nation on Dec. 25, 1991; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2014 the Russian Federation invaded and annexed Crimea and invaded part of Donbas, areas of sovereign Ukraine; and

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations General Assembly formally recognizes the territorial integrity of Ukraine, including Crimea, Luhansk and Donetsk; and

**WHEREAS**, under orders from Vladimir Putin, Russia began amassing troops and military equipment near Ukraine's borders in 2021; and on Feb. 24, 2022, Russia launched a full-scale war on Ukraine, resulting in widespread civilian suffering and loss of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the General Assembly of the United Nations on Feb. 28 condemned Russian aggression against Ukraine by a vote of 141 to 5, with 35 nations abstaining; and

**WHEREAS**, Russia continues to attack Ukraine, committing war crimes through targeting of civilians, creating a humanitarian crisis by forcing 10 million Ukrainians to leave their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, The Russian government has engaged in large-scale media censorship and a propaganda campaign to obfuscate the invasion of Ukraine and the subsequent Russian battlefield losses; and

**WHEREAS**, Russia continues to attack civilian targets, including day care facilities, prisons, hospitals, apartment buildings, and a shopping center; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 100,000 people remain at risk in the besieged city of Mariupol, where food and water remain scarce; and

**WHEREAS**, Russian troops have abducted and killed international journalists, in violation of the Geneva Convention; and

**WHEREAS**, Municipal mayors and city leaders are being targeted and kidnapped by Russian troops, further terrorizing communities, interfering with basic services, and undermining democracy at even the most local levels; and

**WHEREAS**, Russia has attacked civilian protestors in Kherson and Zaporizhzhia; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the United Nations, 1,104 civilians have been killed with another 1,754 injured as of this past weekend, and more than four million Ukrainians have been forced to flee as refugees to other countries,

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

**Section 1.** The Denver City Council supports the independence of the Ukrainian people and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

**Section 2.** The Denver City Council condemns the unilateral invasion of the sovereign state of Ukraine by Russia at the direction of Vladimir Putin.

**Section 3.** The Denver City Council recognizes the plight of Ukrainian refugees and supports the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, refugee relief organizations, and all countries welcoming the influx of refugees.

**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 and transmit it to Oksana Markarova, Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States, the Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch #38 in Denver, and Marina Dubrova of the Ukrainians of Colorado.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL MARCH 29, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_ PRESIDENT