

# PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. CP19-0395

Honoring The 49<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Earth Day

**WHEREAS**, clean soil, water and air are essential to the health of our planet, the people who live on it and the resources we take from it; and

**WHEREAS**, in April 22, 1970, millions of Americans came together to celebrate the first Earth Day, with students, teachers, activists, elected officials, and countless others committing to confront urgent environmental issues of the day; and

**WHEREAS**, Earth Day is an annual reminder of the constant need for environmental activism, stewardship commitments and sustainability efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, in spite of the passionate, well-intended commitment of our predecessors, individual behaviors and governmental policies have led to ever-increasing fossil-fuel emissions that have already created havoc for our environment, leading to the extinction of animal and plant species, the fouling of our air, land and water and multiple challenges to human health; and

**WHEREAS**, prevailing science indicates that climate change, exacerbated by human behaviors, is continuing at a dangerous pace that unless reversed in the coming decade will lead to even more serious environmental changes that threaten to alter where we are able to live, work, play and grow our food; and

**WHEREAS**, while understanding that combating climate change will take worldwide cooperation, we understand that success can only be achieved if all governments institute local policies that honor individual responsibility to solving this crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, Denver has taken numerous actions to honor our responsibility as global citizens, included among them: the creation of an Office of Sustainability to imbed sustainable practices in all governmental functions; a formal commitment to powering city assets entirely with electricity from clean, renewable sources by 2025, with the city grid entirely shifted to clean sources by 2030; a plan to shift city fleets to electric vehicles and increase electric vehicle registrations to 30% by 2030; the Energize Denver benchmarking ordinance that requires owners of buildings over 25,000 square feet to annually measure and report energy performance; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of Denver City Council are in full support of efforts to empower residents to create sustainable neighborhoods across the city, and to empower city agencies to accomplish their duties with the least possible impact on resources.

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

**Section 1.** That the Council of the City and County of Denver joins with citizens around the globe to mark Monday, April 22, 2019 as Earth Day 49; and

**Section 2.** That this Council takes this opportunity to state our commitment to appropriate environmentally friendly policies that will promote the health of Planet Earth for future generations.

**Section 3.** That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy shall be posted in the Council office.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL April 22, 2019

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'M. H. ...', written over a horizontal line.

PRESIDENT