

# DENVER CITY COUNCIL



## Proclamation No. 26-0571

### Recognizing the Colorado Spartans and honoring the team's commitment to community, accessibility and athletic excellence

**WHEREAS**, arena football is a fast-paced, high-scoring professional indoor sport that provides athletes with a competitive platform while delivering an engaging, fan-first experience that blends sport and live entertainment; and

**WHEREAS**, Denver has a distinguished arena football legacy, including the Denver Dynamite, champions of the inaugural ArenaBowl in 1987, and the Colorado Crush, ArenaBowl XIX champions in 2005, establishing the Mile High City as a historic center for the sport; and

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado Spartans were established as a National Arena League (NAL) franchise in 2023, began play in Loveland, Colorado, and have since relocated to the Denver Coliseum, returning professional arena football to Denver and building on the region's strong football tradition; and

**WHEREAS**, the City and County of Denver is recognized as one of the premier sports cities in the United States, and the addition of the Colorado Spartans further strengthens Denver's identity as a dynamic destination for sports, entertainment, and community-centered events; and

**WHEREAS**, the Denver Coliseum serves as a historic and accessible civic venue that provides residents and visitors with the opportunity to experience professional sports in an intimate, high-energy setting that emphasizes connection between players and fans; and

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado Spartans are committed to delivering an engaging, family-friendly fan experience that combines the intensity of professional football with interactive entertainment, in-game fan engagement, player accessibility, and community-centered programming designed to welcome fans of all ages, while championing and investing in youth, public health, resilience, and well-being across the communities they serve; and

**WHEREAS**, arena football provides one of the most accessible forms of professional sports entertainment, offering opportunities for families, youth, and community members to experience live sports in an inclusive and affordable environment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Spartans' roster features accomplished athletes, including quarterback Paxton Lynch, 2025 NAL Defensive Player of the Year Sam Hammond, and standout wide receiver Steven Newbold, who collectively represent excellence in athletic performance and sportsmanship; and

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado Spartans are committed to building strong ties across Denver and the broader region by supporting youth engagement, promoting health and wellness, and fostering community connection through sport; and

**WHEREAS**, home games at the Denver Coliseum contribute to local economic activity by supporting nearby restaurants, small businesses, and hospitality establishments, while activating the surrounding community and reinforcing Denver's vibrant entertainment economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Spartans' leadership, including Owner Tony Thompson, has demonstrated a clear vision to establish the team as a lasting civic asset rooted in community, connection, and long-term impact across the Denver metropolitan area.

### **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE DENVER CITY COUNCIL:**

**Section 1.** That the Denver City Council recognizes the Colorado Spartans as a valued and welcomed member of Denver's professional sports community.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk and Recorder 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 be transmitted to the Colorado Spartans and the National Arena League.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL April 27, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT

