

Proclamation No. 22-0410 Earth Day

WHEREAS, Earth Day, first held on April 22, 1970 to raise awareness about environmental issues, is an annual reminder of the realities of climate change and the great need for environmental activism, stewardship commitments, and sustainability efforts; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Earth Day theme is "Invest in Our Planet" focusing on accelerating solutions to combat climate change, and to activate everyone – governments, citizens, and businesses – to do their part. Everyone accounted for, and everyone accountable; and

WHEREAS, humankind is currently facing tremendous global challenges affecting every community, including global climate change - unprecedented storms, droughts, and fires - extreme inequality and poverty, degradation of ecosystems, and extinction of species; and

WHEREAS, climate change disproportionately impacts the world's poorest and at-risk people; and that all people of this Earth, no matter their race, gender, income, sexual orientation, or national origin, have a right to a healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, the youth of the world are our most valuable resource and represent a source of endless creativity and potential; and their leadership and partnership are needed to help inform, inspire and develop solutions; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for all citizens of our global community to adopt sustainable practices, limit emissions, and reduce the use of single use items and precious resources; and

WHEREAS, as a society we need to develop green jobs and build an innovative and equitable green economy to combat these global challenges; and

WHEREAS, expanding environmental education and climate literacy is vital to enhance awareness about the environment, inform decision-making, and protect future generations; and

WHEREAS, it is understood that sustainability will only be achieved by meeting the needs of the present without compromising the needs of future generations; and

WHEREAS, it is more important than ever to act locally and to cooperate internationally and defend the environmental progress that has been heretofore gained; and

WHEREAS, every person must act since every person's actions - or inaction - matter and can make a difference; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Denver City Council are committed to sustainability in our everyday practices including skipping and combining car trips and using alternative modes of transportation; eliminating single use plastic including beverage bottles, food packaging and plastic bags; increasing composting and recycling; reducing the use of paper; and adopting sustainable purchasing practices; and

WHEREAS, each Denver City Council office is getting Certified Green by the Office of Climate Action, Sustainability & Resiliency; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Denver City Council are committed to leading by example and encouraging all city offices to get the Certified Green designation and to adopt sustainable practices; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Denver City Council will continue to help educate and inform the public to increase awareness and to achieve maximum progress for our city and planet; and

WHEREAS, the Denver City Council will encourage the people of Denver to combat climate change and environmental degradation, support green economy initiatives, and to encourage others to undertake similar actions.

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 Friday, April 22, 2019 as Earth Day; 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; and

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 18, 2022

PRESIDENT