DENVER CITY COUNCIL

Proclamation

Proclamation No. 25-0479
Celebrating Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr

WHEREAS, the Denver City Council recognizes and celebrates Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar, observed by Muslims worldwide as a time of fasting, reflection, and spiritual renewal. Fasting during Ramadan, from dawn to sunset, is one of the Five Pillars of Islam, forming a core element of Muslim faith and practice; and

WHEREAS, Ramadan marks a month-long spiritual journey during which Muslims engage in daily prayer, fasting, and acts of devotion to deepen their connection with God. It is also a time to cultivate empathy and raise awareness of the experiences of vulnerable individuals and families facing hardship; and

WHEREAS, the duration of Ramadan is determined by the sighting of the new crescent moon, lasting 29 or 30 days. The Islamic (Hijri) calendar is a lunar calendar used by Muslims worldwide to determine the dates of religious observances, including Ramadan and other major Islamic holidays. Each month starts with the sighting of a new moon. Because the Islamic calendar is based on lunar cycles, observances do not fall on fixed Gregorian dates or seasons; and

WHEREAS, Ramadan promotes values such as patience, gratitude, compassion, forgiveness, and generosity. It is a time when communities come together through acts of charity and service, highlighting the importance of caring for one another and supporting those affected by hunger, poverty, illness, and conflict. The spirit of Ramadan fosters unity and shared humanity across diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, Eid al-Fitr, often referred to as the “Festival of Breaking the Fast,” marks the end of Ramadan. It is a time of joy and celebration for Muslim families and communities, beginning with a special communal prayer known as Salat al-Eid, typically held in large congregations at mosques or open spaces, symbolizing collective worship and unity; and

WHEREAS, a central tradition of Eid al-Fitr is the giving of Zakat al-Fitr, a form of charity provided as staple food items, ensuring that those in need can also participate in the festivities. It is a time to renew social bonds and promote a spirit of goodwill among all people by exchanging greetings and visiting one another. The holiday brings together families and communities for shared meals, gift- giving, festive attire and local customs that reflect the rich diversity of Muslims in the city of Denver and across the world; and

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

Section 1. That the Denver City Council hereby recognizes and honors the holy month of Ramadan and the celebration of Eid al-Fitr. The Council extends its warmest wishes to Muslim residents and communities in Denver and around the world, acknowledging their contributions, traditions, and shared commitment to compassion, service, and unity.

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 Linda Amin Badwan, Imam Muhammad Kolila, Imam of the Masjid Shuhada (Denver Downtown Islamic Center), Imam Nasser Lamlum, Imam of Masjid Al Nur (Denver Islamic Society), Huma Babak Ebadi, Executive Director of Muslim Youth for Positive Impact (MYPI), and Imam Abdur Rahim Ali, Imam of Masjid Taqwa (Northeast Denver Islamic Center).

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL April 7, 2025

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PRESIDENT