DENVER CITY COUNCIL

Proclamation

Proclamation No. 25-1016
Recognizing the Federation of Gay Games Day

WHEREAS, The Federation of Gay Games, since its inception in 1982 by Dr. Tom Waddell, has profoundly impacted the world of sport and culture, fostering a global movement rooted in the principles of "Participation, Inclusion, and Personal Best," welcoming individuals regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or athletic ability**;** and

WHEREAS, the Gay Games, a quadrennial international sports and cultural event, has provided a vital platform for LGBTQIA2S+ athletes and allies to compete, connect, and celebrate, transcending boundaries and promoting understanding and respect worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Denver boasts a robust and vibrant LGBTQIA2S+ community, supported by a progressive and inclusive government, evidenced by our perfect score on the Human Rights Campaign's Municipal Equality Index and a commitment to advancing social, economic, and political equality for all residents**;** and

WHEREAS, Denver, Colorado, stands as a truly fantastic world-class city, renowned for its stunning natural beauty, thriving economy, diverse cultural scene, commitment to sustainability, and welcoming spirit, making it an ideal destination for international events that champion diversity and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that Denver occupies the traditional lands of the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute peoples, and we honor their enduring connection to this land and their historical and ongoing contributions; and

WHEREAS, Colorado's values of inclusivity, outdoor recreation, and community spirit align seamlessly with the mission and ethos of the Gay Games, and the City of Denver proudly continues to welcome the world and the official Gay Games site inspectors for the 2030 bid, demonstrating our readiness and enthusiasm to host this momentous event.

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

Section 1. That the Denver City Council hereby proclaims proclaim Tuesday, July 15, 2025, as “Federation of Gay Games Day” in the City and County of Denver, and encourage all residents to recognize the enduring legacy of the Gay Games, from its inaugural event in San Francisco, United States, in 1982, to its subsequent celebrated hosts including Sydney, Australia; Paris, France; Guadalajara, Mexico; Hong Kong, and the upcoming 2026 Gay Games in Valencia, Spain, and to embrace the spirit of unity, diversity, and artistic, athletic and cultural excellence and to promote equity, diversity and inclusion through sport and culture that the Federation of Gay Games mission embodies.

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 R. Tony Smith, Public Relations Director for the Gay Games Denver 2030 Bid Committee.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL July 14, 2025

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PRESIDENT