

# PROCLAMATION

CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY BY DECLARING THE MONTH OF JUNE PRIDE MONTH, AFFIRMING THAT LGBTQ+ RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

WHEREAS, the Arlington City government is committed to celebrating the diversity of our growing city; and

WHEREAS, the month of June is celebrated throughout our nation, commemorating the Stonewall Uprising that occurred June 28th, 1969, in opposition to police harassment, marking the beginning of the LGBTQ+ rights movement; and

WHEREAS, on June 26th, 2015, the Supreme Court granted same-sex individuals the right to marry in the Obergefell v. Hodges decision, recognizing that the sanctity of marriage is the right of all to pursue regardless of sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, despite national progress, the LGBTQ+ community continues to face discrimination, harassment, disparity in healthcare, housing and employment, and the denial of basic human rights; and

WHEREAS, the LGBTQ+ community continues to be vulnerable to violence, homelessness, and death, as the CDC indicates one-third of LGB youth attempted suicide last year, compared to six percent of their heterosexual peers, and the UCLA Williams Institute indicates sexual minority adults are twice as likely as the general population to have experienced homelessness in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, members of the LGBTQ+ population reside throughout our city, are employed in our city, are our neighbors, our teachers, our first responders, our business owners, our youth, our friends and our family, and these community members deserve to live without fear of discrimination, prejudice or violence; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arlington strives to be an employer who is committed to creating an environment that is inclusive and equitable, and free from discrimination and harassment, and desires opportunities to celebrate the growing diversity in our city.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARBARA TOLBERT, Mayor of the City of Arlington, do hereby proclaim June 2021 as

## **LGBTQ+ Pride Month**

in the City of Arlington, and commit to engaging in action that increases the safety, security, and freedom of each of the LGBTQ+ citizens.



Barbara Tolbert, Mayor



Date