

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE



PROCLAMATION

International Day of Democracy September 15, 2024

WHEREAS the United Nations observes the 15th of September as the International Day of Democracy with the purpose of promoting the principles of democracy and commemorating the day in a manner that contributes to raising public awareness of universal human rights; and

WHEREAS the Universal Declaration of Human Rights emphasizes that the will of the people is the basis for the authority of government; and

WHEREAS political and public participation rights are crucial to the advancement of all human rights and are essential for democratic governance, the rule of law, social inclusion, economic development and the empowerment of individuals and groups to eliminate discrimination and marginalization, peaceful assembly and association, freedom of opinion and expression, and access to information and education; and

WHEREAS the International Day of Democracy provides an opportunity to review the state of our democracy, to promote its principles for the protection and effective realization of human rights, and to create an environment for greater citizen participation, equality, security and development;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Charlottesville City Council recognizes and celebrates the 15th day of September 2024, as International Day of Democracy to remind us of, and exhort our continuing protection of the governing principles by which the freely expressed will of the people is exercised and respected in this great country.

Signed this 3rd day of September 2024.