

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE



Proclamation

Support Your Local Chamber of Commerce Day October 15, 2025

WHEREAS the Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce, founded in 1913, has for more than a century served as a vital institution in strengthening the fabric of our local economy; and

WHEREAS today the Chamber is comprised of more than 600 members representing enterprises in the City of Charlottesville, the Counties of Albemarle, Augusta, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, Nelson, and Orange, as well as other localities across the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS the Chamber serves as a convener, catalyst, and champion for the business community, fostering collaboration and innovation to support both established enterprises and emerging entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS the Chamber provides a forum for businesses to connect, share resources, and advocate for policies that promote economic growth and community well-being; and

WHEREAS the Chamber's leadership is exemplified by Andrea Copeland, President and Chief Executive Officer, who in 2025 was honored with the Virginia Business Magazine's *Women in Leadership Award* in recognition of her professional excellence, civic engagement, and leadership in breaking barriers—particularly as the first Black President and CEO in the Chamber's 112-year history; and

WHEREAS strong local businesses create jobs, expand opportunities, and invest in the future of Charlottesville and its residents; and

WHEREAS "Support Your Local Chamber of Commerce Day" offers an opportunity for all residents to recognize and celebrate the Chamber's leadership in advancing prosperity, inclusion, and community vitality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Council of the City of Charlottesville hereby recognizes **October 15, 2025, as Support Your Local Chamber of Commerce Day** in the City of Charlottesville and encourages all residents to join in celebrating and supporting the work of the Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Signed and sealed this 6th day of October 2025.

Mayor

Clerk of Council