WHEREAS, July is Park and Recreation Month, during which we celebrate the diverse parks, recreation and leisure programs that are so vital to our quality of life, helping to ensure the health of our residents and contributing to Fairfax County's economic and environmental wellbeing; and

**WHEREAS**, legacy park systems such as Fairfax County's, with 420 parks and nearly 24,000 acres of parkland, are fundamental to the health of our environment, improving water and air quality, protecting groundwater, preventing flooding, and providing vegetative buffers for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the county's diverse recreation needs are met through the collaborative efforts of county agencies including the Fairfax County Park Authority, the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, McLean Community Center and Reston Community Center; and

WHEREAS, every year millions of residents avail themselves of camps, classes, events trips and other programming at park locations, nature centers, rec centers, community, teen and senior centers across the county, positively impacting physical, intellectual, social and emotional health; and

WHEREAS, Fairfax County is committed to ensuring that the opportunities and benefits of our parks and recreation programs are available to all regardless of race, ethnicity, physical or intellectual ability, zip code or economic status and that all are welcome and can feel a sense of belonging and community; NOW THEREFORE

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of all Fairfax County residents, does hereby proclaim July 2024 as

## Park and Recreation Month

in Fairfax County and urges all residents to recognize and take advantage of the county's renowned parks and recreation system.

Jeffrey C. McKay, Chair wan Fairfax County Board of Supervisors