PROCLAMATION City of Charlotte/Mecklenburg County

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed into law the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to ensure the civil rights of people with disabilities. This legislation established a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities. On July 26, 2019 we will celebrate the anniversary of the signing of the ADA; and

WHEREAS, the ADA has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers, changing perceptions, and increasing full participation in community life. However, the full promise of the ADA will only be reached if we remain committed to continue our efforts to fully implement the ADA: and

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County celebrate and honor the achievements of people with disabilities who live in our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, in partnership with the City of Charlotte ADA Community Network Team, Mecklenburg Advocacy Council for People with Disabilities and 99 other partners representing various agencies and organizations, have come together to celebrate the Americans with Disabilities Act; and

WHEREAS, on the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, we the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County celebrate and recognize the progress that has been made by reaffirming the principles of equality and inclusion and recommitting our efforts to reach full ADA compliance; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate those positive changes in our community so people with disabilities can be free from negative attitudes and architectural barriers; and

WHEREAS, we honor those businesses in our community for complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act by making their establishments accessible and usable to all patrons with disabilities:

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of the City of Charlotte, and George Dunlap, Chair of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, do hereby reaffirm to continue to work toward full ADA compliance, and do hereby proclaim July 26, 2019 as

"AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT AWARENESS DAY"

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and encourage all citizens of the City and County to recognize that the Americans with Disabilities Act has, and will continue to, improve the quality of life for all people with disabilities in our community.

WITNESS OUR HANDS and the official Seals of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County

Vi Alexander Lyles,

City of Charlotte

George R. Dunlap, Chair Mecklenburg Board of County

Commissioners