



**A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MARCH 8, 2026 AS
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY**

WHEREAS; International Women’s Day was officially proclaimed by the United Nations in 1975 and is promoted around the world to honor the achievements, resilience, and leadership of women and girls everywhere; and

WHEREAS; International Women’s Day is an opportunity to celebrate the women who teach our children, care for our families, lead our organizations, strengthen our neighborhoods, govern our city, and build bridges across cultures and generations, work that shapes the heart of our community; and

WHEREAS; International Women’s Day reminds us not only to celebrate progress, but also to acknowledge the work still ahead; and

WHEREAS; women and girls, in particular women with disabilities, racialized women, immigrant women, transwomen, and gender-expansive individuals continue to face barriers such as discrimination, economic inequality, and limited access to opportunities, and recognizing these realities is part of building a stronger and more just community; and

WHEREAS; International Women’s Day calls us to action—action to listen, action to learn, and action to ensure that every woman, girl, and gender-expansive person in Harrisonburg can live with dignity, safety, and opportunity; and

WHEREAS; We envision a city where diversity is valued, where leadership is shared, and where every person has the chance to participate fully in civic and communal life. When women thrive, communities thrive, and when communities thrive, our entire city thrives;

THEREFORE, on behalf of the City of Harrisonburg, I, Deanna Reed, along with the entire Council, do hereby proclaim March 8th as International Women’s Day in the City of Harrisonburg. We invite the community to join the annual commemoration of International Women’s Day on the Saturday closest to March 8th.

Together, let us continue building a community where everyone belongs and everyone can succeed.

GIVEN under my hand this 24th day of February, 2026

BY: _____
Deanna R. Reed, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Pamela Ulmer, City Clerk