

residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Depot Park Parkrun provides a free, weekly 5K event that is open to all, regardless of age or ability. Parkrun encourages participation in physical activity and promotes a healthy lifestyle; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, Depot Park Parkrun has hosted over 252 events, with a total of 3,220 participants completing 15,904 runs, walks, and jogs, covering a combined distance of over 51,038 miles, a distance equivalent to going around the earth twice; and

WHEREAS, Depor Park Parkrun is powered by the incredible efforts of 533 volunteers who have collectively contributed 1,066 hours of service. These volunteers ensure that the event runs smoothly each week, fostering a spirit of camaraderic and community support; and

WHEREAS, Depot Park Parkrun has seen participants from across the world, including the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Germany, Italy and South Africa. This highlights its broad appeal and the way it has connected our city to the global Parkrun movement; and

WHEREAS, the average finish time getting slower each year reflects the inclusivity of the event, encouraging participation at all levels of fitness and ability: and

WHEREAS, Depot Park Parkrun has become a cherished tradition in our city, contributing to the vibrancy of Depot Park and enhancing the quality of life for all who take part; and

WHEREAS, Depot Park Parkrun has become a place where friendships are formed, and milestones are celebrated. Milestones such as junior participants completing their 10th, adults their 25th, 50th, and 100th parkrun, where countless memories are made, all in the beautiful setting of Depot Park; and

WHEREAS, Depot Park Parkrun contributes to the health and well-being of our community, providing a welcoming and supportive environment that encourages regular physical activity and fosters a strong sense of community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Harvey L. Ward, Jr., by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim September 29, 2024 as

Depot Park Parkrun Day

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our neighbors to join me in celebrating this remarkable milestone and the positive impact Depot Park Parkrun has had on our city.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 9th day of September 2024.

