

**WHEREAS**, the Parks and Recreation Department, including the North Port Aquatic Center, is committed to increasing community awareness about the dangers of drowning and providing education about water safety in City of North Port; and

**WHEREAS**, learn to swim, Float 4 Life, and water safety programs are vitally important to decreasing the loss of life in our communities, ensuring the education and skills development are available for all citizens, and contributing to the well-being of a community and region; and

**WHEREAS**, drowning is the leading cause of death in Florida for children under the age of four, with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reporting that 10 children drown daily in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Department of Children and Families reported 99 fatal drownings of children under the age of 18 in 2023 the highest number of drowning deaths since 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, May is recognized as National Drowning Prevention Awareness Month by the National Drowning Prevention Association; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of North Port recognizes the importance of drowning prevention through water safety outreach and education.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as

## “Drowning Prevention Awareness Month”

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto set our hands and Seal of the City of North Port, Florida, to be affixed this 2nd day of May 2024.

### CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

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Alice White, Mayor

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Phil Stokes, Vice-Mayor

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Debbie McDowell, Commissioner



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Barbara Langdon, Commissioner

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Pete Emrich, Commissioner

**ATTEST**

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Heather Faust, City Clerk