



CITY COUNCIL

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, parks, recreation and cultural resource programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Raleigh, North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation promotes health and wellness, improving the physical and mental health of people who live near parks; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation promotes time spent in nature, which positively impacts mental health by increasing cognitive performance and well-being, and alleviating illnesses such as depression, attention deficit disorders, and Alzheimers; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation encourages physical activities by providing space for popular sports, hiking trails, swimming pools and many other activities designed to promote active lifestyles; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation is a leading provider of nutrition services and education; and

**WHEREAS**, park and recreation programming and education activities, such as out-of-school time programming, youth sports and environmental education, are critical to childhood development; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation increases a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation is fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation is essential and adaptable infrastructure that makes our communities resilient in the face of natural disasters and climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Raleigh recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, do I, Janet Cowell, Mayor of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim July 2026 as

## PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH



**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, to be affixed this 1st day of July 2026.

  
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Janet Cowell  
Mayor