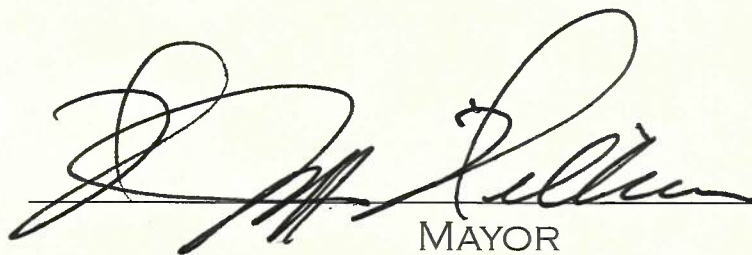


Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** the bold, courageous and powerful women who fought for the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution on August 18, 1920, deserve special celebration by the City of Arlington on the 100th anniversary; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 26, 1918, a bill permitting women to vote passed in the Texas House and Senate and Governor William Hobby signed it into law; and
- WHEREAS,** on June 28, 1919, the Texas legislature voted to ratify the 19th Amendment, the first southern state to do so, winning women the right to vote in national elections; and
- WHEREAS,** it took fourteen months, until August 18, 1920, when the required $\frac{3}{4}$ of all states had ratified the federal amendment and, eight days later, on August 26, 1920, United States Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby declared the law in effect; and
- WHEREAS,** the 19th Amendment did not guarantee suffrage for all women, including Native Americans who did not gain the right to vote until 1924, Asian Pacific Islander Americans in 1952, African-American and Latin Americans in 1965 and 1975, with passage of the Voting Rights Act; and
- WHEREAS,** the League of Women Voters of Arlington, Texas, officially chartered on May 16, 1981 and led by President Joyce Morgan, is now a unit of the larger League of Women Voters of Tarrant County, which has a mission to empower voters and defend democracy and a belief in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy; and
- WHEREAS,** women have served on the Arlington City Council since 1972 when Martha Walker served District 5 and, since then, seventeen others have served on Council, which currently includes four women – Sheri Capehart, Victoria Farrar-Myers, Helen Moise, and Barbara Odom-Wesley; and
- WHEREAS,** the fact that today women are active in local, state and national government and are running for office in unprecedented numbers reminds us that we all follow in the footsteps of those resolute suffragists.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, W. Jeff Williams, Mayor of the City of Arlington, Texas, and on behalf of the Arlington City Council, hereby celebrate the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment; honor its role in promoting the core values of our democracy; and reaffirm our desire to strengthen democratic participation and to inspire future generations to cherish and preserve this historic precedent.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed this 18th day of August in the year of Our Lord two thousand and


MAYOR

