

# Proclamation

## CITY OF RACINE, WISCONSIN

**Whereas**, activist Rosa Parks became a Civil Rights icon when she was arrested after refusing to give up her seat to a white person on a segregated Montgomery, Alabama public transit bus in 1955, an action that sparked the Montgomery bus boycott; and

**Whereas**, the boycott eventually led to the Supreme Court decision declaring that segregation on buses violated the equal protection clause of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the US Constitution; and

**Whereas**, in 2017 a network of community organizations, environmental groups, and labor unions declared February 4 – Rosa Parks’ birthday – “Transit Equity Day” as a national day of action to advocate for affordable, accessible, and reliable transit powered by renewable energy; and

**Whereas**, the City of Racine has made strides in improving transit accessibility, affordability, and equity; while at the same time significantly reducing its carbon footprint with nine electric busses currently in service, and four more to be added in the near future; and

**Whereas**, the city is grateful for the service of our transit workers, who bravely and tirelessly operate and maintain our transit system to serve the transportation needs of the community; and

**Whereas**, on February 4th each Ryde Racine bus will have one seat reserved to honor and commemorate Rosa Parks, as we acknowledge that transit is a civil right and all people should have access to reliable, affordable transportation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Cory Mason**, Mayor, proclaim February 4, 2024, as

## Transit Equity Day in the City of Racine

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Racine to be affixed.

Accomplished at the City Hall  
this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.

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Mayor