

*Whereas:* communities across the United States designate the month of June as Pride Month to commemorate the 1969 Stonewall riots, widely recognized as the catalyst of the LGBTQIA+ rights movement; and

*Whereas:* the City of Racine stands with the LGBTQIA+ community as they declare pride in who they are and whom they love, and especially during Pride Month, we are reminded that our remarkable diversity makes us all stronger; and

Whereas: while there has been significant progress toward acceptance and equality, members of the LGBTQIA+ community continue to face discrimination and intolerance; and

Whereas: the Human Rights Campaign, a civil rights organization working toward equality for LGBTQ+ people, rates cities throughout the country on their leadership in committing to equity with its Municipal Equality Index (MEI); and

*Whereas:* in 2022 and 2023 the City of Racine achieved a perfect MEI score through improving hate crime reporting procedures, appointing LGBTQ liaisons in the Mayor's office and Police Department, enacting protections against the harmful practice of "conversion therapy," strengthening our non-discrimination ordinance, and expanding health coverage to trans and nonbinary employees.

NOW THEREFORE: I, Cory Mason, Mayor, proclaim the month of June 2024

## Pride Month

and invite everyone to join me in rededicating our efforts to the ongoing cause of equality, acceptance, and freedom for all.

*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  $21^{st}$  day of May 2024.

Mayor	