



# Mayoral Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** Earth Day was first celebrated on April 22, 1970 and today we celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary; and

**WHEREAS,** new and continuing challenges, including climate change, pollution, sea level rise, and loss of forests, wetlands, and other wildlife habitats, reinforce the need for adequate protections for the air we breathe, the water we drink, the land we inhabit, and the animals we live alongside; and

**WHEREAS,** recent reports from the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the National Climate Assessment have made clear that we are in a global climate emergency, by documenting the extent, speed, and acceleration of global climate change and planetary warming, and their dramatic effects on our Earth; and

**WHEREAS,** the most vulnerable populations, which are often people of color, will be disproportionately impacted by the effects of climate change, exacerbating unemployment, displacement, and homelessness; and

**WHEREAS,** communities, neighborhoods and residents most vulnerable to climate impacts tend to be the least prepared to manage and recover, and our youth in particular will see the long-term results of a dramatically changing climate; and

**WHEREAS,** 2020 marks the beginning of a critical decade in the fight against climate change; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Takoma Park declared a Climate Emergency on March 13, 2019 via Resolution 2019-15, and a Climate Emergency Response Framework for Takoma Park was adopted March 4, 2020 by Resolution 2020-6; and

**WHEREAS,** Earth Day reaffirms our responsibility in the global effort to combat climate change and protect our planet for all.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, KATE STEWART, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, hereby proclaim April 22, 2020 as the 50th anniversary of Earth Day and call on residents to reflect on the origins of the modern environmental movement and look ahead to the next 50 years of climate action.**

**Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2020.**

**Kate Stewart  
Mayor**