



# Mayoral Proclamation

## Honoring the Forty Year Anniversary of Takoma Park's Nuclear-Free Zone

- WHEREAS,** on December 12th, 1983 the City of Takoma Park City Council voted unanimously to adopt an ordinance establishing our city as a Nuclear-Free Zone; and
- WHEREAS,** this ordinance bans producing, transporting, storage, disposal and activation of nuclear weapons in Takoma Park; and
- WHEREAS,** the City's Nuclear-Free Zone ordinance was unprecedented, as the first in the country to prohibit municipal investments in industries and institutions which are knowingly and intentionally engaged in the production of nuclear weapons; and
- WHEREAS,** the establishment of a Nuclear-Free Zone helped Takoma Park to put itself on the international stage as a city that is willing to take bold steps to ensure the health and safety for not only its own residents, but the world at large; and
- WHEREAS,** this ordinance brought together hundreds of residents to support its passage, including testimony from elementary school children and U.S. Peace Corp veterans; and
- WHEREAS,** a city council-appointed volunteer Nuclear Free Committee was formed to educate the public on these issues and oversee compliance with the ordinance; and
- WHEREAS,** through the last forty years a number of residents have steadfastly served our community as stewards of this cause; and
- WHEREAS,** City staff is ready to take on the responsibilities of overseeing compliance with the Nuclear-Free Zone ordinance from a city council-appointed Committee; and
- WHEREAS,** the City continues to be fully committed to maintaining our City as a Nuclear-Free Zone; and
- WHEREAS,** the City encourages community organizations to continue the effort to educate others about the importance of denuclearization.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Talisha Searcy, Mayor of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, hereby acknowledge the City of Takoma Park's 40-year anniversary as a nuclear-free community and recognize the community members who have served on the Nuclear Free Committee by expressing my deep appreciation for their dedication and their contribution to this historic City policy.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

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**Talisha Searcy**  
**Mayor**