

**SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY
CITY OF COLLEGE PARK
PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the government of College Park, Maryland, celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; Our most recent retail figures for the City of College Park is home to more than 1,000 businesses that generate more than \$550 million dollars in retail sales; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are 634,622 small businesses in the state of Maryland, small businesses represent 99.5% of firms with paid employees, Women made up 49.2 percent of workers and owned 44.3 percent of business, Veterans made up 6.1 percent of workers and owned 6.7 percent of businesses, Hispanics made up 10. Percent of workers and owned 8.6 percent of businesses, racial minorities made up 42. Percent of workers and owned 36.6 percent of businesses In the United States small businesses are responsible for 62% of net new jobs created since 1995, and small businesses employ 46.8% of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and

WHEREAS, 79% of consumers understand the importance of supporting the small businesses in their community on Small Business Saturday®, 70% report the day makes them want to encourage others to Shop Small®, independently-owned retailers, and 66% report that the day makes them want to Shop Small all year long; and

WHEREAS, 58% of shoppers reported they shopped online with a small business and 54% reported they dined or ordered takeout from a small restaurant, bar, or café on Small Business Saturday in 2021; and

WHEREAS, College Park, Maryland supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy, and preserve our communities, including Uptown Cheapskate, Board And Brew, Hair And Space Blowdry And Beauty Bar, Ritchie's Colombian Restaurant And Appletree Day Care Center

WHEREAS, advocacy groups, as well as public and private organizations, across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Patrick L. Wojahn, Mayor of the City of College Park, Maryland, do hereby proclaim, the 26th of November 2022 as "**SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**" and urge the residents of our community, and communities across the country, to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

PROCLAIMED this 1st day of November, 2022.

Patrick L. Wojahn, Mayor
City of College Park