

**CITY OF COLLEGE PARK**  
**CHESAPEAKE BAY AWARENESS WEEK PROCLAMATION**  
**JUNE 1 -9, 2024**

- WHEREAS,** the Chesapeake Bay is the largest and most productive estuary in the United States, with its watershed spanning six states and the District of Columbia; and
- WHEREAS,** the Chesapeake Bay watershed, covering 64,000 square miles, is an extraordinary and vital natural resource, with some of the nation's most productive farm and forest lands; and
- WHEREAS,** the Chesapeake Bay is fed by 50 major tributaries, including the Susquehanna, Potomac, Rappahannock, York, and James Rivers, and stretches 200 miles from Havre de Grace, Maryland, to Norfolk, Virginia; and
- WHEREAS,** the Chesapeake Bay watershed is home to more than 18 million people, many of whom rely upon the watershed's natural resources for their livelihood, food, drinking water and recreational activities; and
- WHEREAS,** the Chesapeake Bay produces more than 500 million pounds of seafood harvest each year, and the more than 83,000 farms in the Chesapeake Bay watershed contribute more than \$10 billion to the regional economy and provide food for millions of Americans; and
- WHEREAS,** the Chesapeake Bay's Maryland tributaries are an important source of drinking water, which is essential for public health, and economic growth and a vital resource for future generations; and
- WHEREAS,** the rich history, pivotal economic importance, and astounding beauty of the Chesapeake Bay watershed never cease to amaze residents and visitors alike.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park, do hereby proclaim June 1 – 9, 2024 as **CHESAPEAKE BAY AWARENESS WEEK** in the City of College Park, and urge residents to recognize the importance of this valuable resource, to protect and enjoy its natural beauty and bounty, and to increase awareness of the importance of the Chesapeake Bay watershed to our community.

**SO PROCLAIMED THIS 21<sup>st</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2024.**

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Fazlul Kabir, Mayor  
City of College Park, Maryland