

PROCLAMATION
City of College Park, Maryland
GRANTS FOR SAFE SCHOOLS DAY

- WHEREAS,** in the wake of the Uvalde tragedy, parents asked lawmakers to do one thing– “make their lives matter”; and
- WHEREAS,** lawmakers came together to pass the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), providing billions of dollars in grants for school districts to afford security upgrades, mental health services, and other common-sense programs to make schools safer; and
- WHEREAS,** because grant applications can take up to 100 hours and cost as much as \$50,000 to hire a professional grant writer, applying for, and winning, federal grants is complex, expensive, and intimidating; and
- WHEREAS,** school districts with limited resources and staff are unfairly disadvantaged in the challenge of securing sorely needed federal funding; and
- WHEREAS,** the Greenlights Grant Initiative focuses on raising awareness about school safety grants, offering school districts resources and tools for successful applications, and ensuring continuous and more equitable federal funding for school safety; and
- WHEREAS,** lacking resources to hire a professional grant writer, school districts with limited resources and staff, often rural school districts or those in less affluent areas, are disadvantaged in the challenge of securing sorely needed federal funding; and
- WHEREAS,** the Greenlights Grant Initiative supports school districts in navigating the grant application process, through webinars, guidebooks, how-tos, tutorials, and other tools; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of College Park leaders can best serve our community by connecting our school districts with the Greenlights Grant Initiative connecting school districts to billions of dollars of available federal funding to promote school safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park that the 8th day of October 2024 is recognized as **Grants for Safe Schools Day** supporting the Greenlights Grant Initiative and the important work it