

  
**REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Date: **2/25/2019**  
Item No.: **5.a**

Department Approval

City Manager Approval



Item Description: Consider Proclaiming March Women’s History Month

**BACKGROUND**

At the September 20, 2017 Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission (HRIEC) meeting, Mayor Roe asked that the commission review proclamations before they were presented to the City Council as a result of comments from concerned citizens. Since that time, the HRIEC has spent considerable time at each subsequent meeting to discuss, review, conduct outreach, and consult with the City Council on what they would like included in city proclamations. At the February 12, 2018 City Council meeting, the HRIEC brought forward a recommendation on the process for reviewing the proclamations that included:

- **Review existing proclamation language.** The HRIEC or another body designated by Council would conduct an in-depth review of current proclamations and provide recommended changes to content and language within those proclamations. This would enable our City’s proclamations to be as contemporary and locally-relevant as possible.
- **Increase awareness of city proclamations.** Upcoming proclamations would be mentioned on the city website, city newsletter and other appropriate forms of communication. In doing so awareness of the proclamation can reach a larger audience and therefore further promote the proclamation’s purpose.
- **Pilot one or two featured proclamations in 2018.** In addition to the proclamation the city would have programming or outreach related to the proclamation. The City would make a purposeful effort to educate the community or engage with those affected by the proclamation’s topic. This shows that our City is working towards meaningful progress related to what is being proclaimed.

At the November 26, 2018 City Council meeting, the HRIEC presented their recommendation regarding proclamations for 2019 to the Council. At that meeting, the Council asked the Commission to further review the format of the proclamations. In particular, they asked that the proclamations include details on whether it was a nationally recognized month, and if so, who created the designated month/day/week, etc. In addition, they felt that it would be beneficial to also include:

- any challenges people have faced,
- contributions of people being recognized (locally if possible),
- a sentence stating the city generally committing to improving or celebrating the lives or contributions
- any legislative actions surrounding the issue.

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The Commission discussed the proclamation and felt it was in a format to bring forward to Council for discussion. Some details regarding the background and commission outreach is included below.

Proclamation	Month	History	Outreach
Women’s History Month	March	Women’s History Month had its origins in 1981 when Congress passed Pub. L. 97-28 which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982 as “Women’s History Week”. In 1987 after being petitioned by the National Women’s History Project, Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9 which designated the month of March 1987 as “Women’s History Month.”	Reviewed with the League of Women Voters.  Other proclamations that were reviewed included Presidential proclamations by Presidents Obama and Trump.

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Attached is a redlined version of the proclamation which highlights the updated language proposed through the outreach conducted by the commission against the previously adopted proclamation from 2017. A clean copy is also included in the packet.

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**POLICY OBJECTIVE**

Proclamations are typically issued to recognize the importance of a community event, significant achievements by a community member or group, or to increase public awareness of a worthy cause. To ensure these proclamations are relevant, timely and culturally appropriate, outreach to those who are impacted by the proclamation should be undertaken to better understand the impact of the proclamation.

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the proclamation and proclaim March as Women’s History Month in the City of Roseville.

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**REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION**

Proclaim March, 2019 as Women’s History Month in the City of Roseville and read the proclamation.

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Prepared by: Rebecca Olson, Assistant City Manager (651) 792-7446

- Attachments: A. Redlined version Proclamation
- B. Women’s History Month Proclamation

# Women's History Month

## March 2017

**Whereas:** Throughout history, extraordinary women have made significant contributions to the growth and strength of our city, state, and nation in countless ways; The City of Roseville is committed to recognizing and honoring contributions of all members of our community; and

**Whereas:** In 1980 a Joint Congressional Resolution declared the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week, and in 1987 Congress expanded the celebration of women's contributions to the entire month of March; and

**Whereas:** Through leadership, innovation, and ingenuity, generations of women have made significant contributions in science, medicine, technology, business, politics, entrepreneurship, and arts and culture; The movement recognizes and celebrates contributions that women of every race, class and ethnic background have made to society; and

**Whereas:** Women have been leaders in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity; and in the abolitionist, emancipation, industrial labor, civil rights, and peace movements, creating a more fair and just society for all; Although often overlooked and undervalued, women collectively have dramatically influenced the development of sound public policy, institutions, and organizations; and

**Whereas:** Whether serving in elected positions across America, leading groundbreaking civil rights movements, venturing into unknown frontiers, or programming revolutionary technologies, generations of women that knew their gender was no obstacle to what they could accomplish have long stirred new ideas and opened new doors, having a profound and positive impact on our community; From championing human rights to ensuring access and equal opportunity for all Americans, women have led the way in establishing a stronger and more democratic country; and

**Whereas:** Despite their contributions, the role of women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued in literature, education and culture; Against social convention and often legal restraints, women have created a legacy that expands the frontiers of possibility. Women have demonstrated character, courage and commitment as mothers, political and community leaders, educators, institution builders, business, labor, relief workers, religious leaders, and CEOs; and

**Whereas:** This month we celebrate countless pioneering women and their victories, and we  
~~unpaid.~~ continue our work to build a society where our daughters have the same possibilities as our sons. Women have always worked, but often their work has been undervalued  
and

**Whereas:** ~~The 2017 National Women's History Month "Honoring Trailblazing Women in Labor and Business" honors women who have successfully challenged the role of women in both business and the paid labor force.~~

| **Now, Therefore Be It Resolved** that the City Council hereby declares March 201~~97~~ to be  
Women's History Month in the City of Roseville, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota, U.S.A.

| **In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Roseville  
to be affixed this ~~thirteen~~25th day of February 201~~97~~.

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Mayor Daniel J. Roe



## Women's History Month March 2019

**Whereas:** Throughout history, extraordinary women have made significant contributions to the growth and strength of our city, state, and nation in countless ways; and

**Whereas:** In 1980 a Joint Congressional Resolution declared the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week, and in 1987 Congress expanded the celebration of women's contributions to the entire month of March; and

**Whereas:** Through leadership, innovation, and ingenuity, generations of women have made significant contributions in science, medicine, technology, business, politics, entrepreneurship, and arts and culture; and

**Whereas:** Women have been leaders in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity; and in the abolitionist, emancipation, industrial labor, civil rights, and peace movements, creating a more fair and just society for all; and

**Whereas:** Whether serving in elected positions across America, leading groundbreaking civil rights movements, venturing into unknown frontiers, or programming revolutionary technologies, generations of women that knew their gender was no obstacle to what they could accomplish have long stirred new ideas and opened new doors, having a profound and positive impact on our community; and

**Whereas:** Despite their contributions, the role of women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued in literature, education and culture; and

**Whereas:** This month we celebrate countless pioneering women and their victories, and we continue our work to build a society where our daughters have the same possibilities as our sons.

**Now, Therefore Be It Resolved** that the City Council hereby declares March 2019 to be Women's History Month in the City of Roseville, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota, U.S.A.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Roseville to be affixed this 25th day of February 2019.

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Mayor Daniel J. Roe