

## Proclamation Designating Black History Month

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is a time dedicated to celebrating the culture, history, contributions, and sacrifices of African Americans in the community and nationally; and

**WHEREAS**, the origins of Black History Month date back to 1915 when Dr. Carter G. Woodson founded the organization known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of River Forest honors the history made by African Americans in the community and promises to continue the good and necessary work to achieve racial justice and equity within the Village; and

**WHEREAS**, President Gerald Ford formally recognized Black History Month in February 1976, encouraging the country to take time to learn about the achievements and contributions of African-Americans to our American landscape; and

**WHEREAS**, during Black History Month all Americans are encouraged to reflect on past successes and challenges of African Americans and look to the future to continue to improve society so that we live up to the ideals of freedom and equality; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, CATHERINE ADDUCI, VILLAGE PRESIDENT OF THE VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST,** do hereby proclaim February 2023 Black History Month in the Village of River Forest, Illinois in recognition of the impact of African American Culture in our daily lives.

**IN WITNESS, THEREOF,** I have hereto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the seal of the Village of River Forest, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023.

Catherine Adduci Village President