

## HUMAN RIGHTS PROCLAMATION

Whereas, on Human Rights Day, Thursday, December 10, 2020, we celebrate the founding ideals of our Nation which emphasize the importance of protecting human liberty throughout our great country; and

Whereas, as Iowans, we cherish the values of free speech, equality, and religious freedom, and we stand in unity against injustice, inequality and tyranny; and

Whereas, the citizens of Ankeny affirm that everyone has the right to be recognized as a person before the law, and all are equal before the law, and all are entitled, without discrimination, to equal protection of the law regardless of age, race, color, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, national origin, disability, or veteran status.

Whereas, we believe peace and justice prevail when people are free to speak, assemble, and worship, when their rights are protected, and when governments are accountable to their citizens. These foundations of freedom are guaranteed for Americans in the Bill of Rights of our Constitution.

Whereas, on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Human Rights Day, we celebrate the ideals of our founders and reaffirm the belief that freedom is the right of all mankind.

Whereas, the citizens of Ankeny, recognize the need to advance the claims of the oppressed; to reaffirm the rights to life and liberty as fundamental rights upon which all others are based; and to safeguard the rights to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion. As we are free, we must speak up for those who are not.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gary Lorenz, Mayor of the City of Ankeny, do hereby proclaim December 10, 2020, as Human Rights Day. We call upon the citizens of Ankeny to be respectful of the rights of others and appreciate the diversity of all residents and visitors in the City of Ankeny.

  
Gary Lorenz, Mayor