



***WHEREAS**, March is annually recognized as Women's History Month and is a time to honor the significant contributions and achievements made by women of every race, class, and ethnic background to the growth and strength of our Nation; and*

***WHEREAS**, we recognize that men and women of all backgrounds have worked together to build this nation together but too often the labor and contributions of women have been unsung and went unnoticed; and*

***WHEREAS**, the origins of Women's History Month can be traced back to 1978 in Santa Rosa, California when the Education Task Force on the Status of Women of the Sonoma County Commission was created to persuade schools in their compliance with the newly passed Title IX laws. That task force started Women's History Week during the week of March 8 to correspond with International Women's Day; and*

***WHEREAS**, the weeklong celebrations occurring in Sonoma County, California inspired other communities across the country to organize their own recognition of women's history which eventually led to women's activist groups lobbying for a National Women's History Week; and*

***WHEREAS**, In February of 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring March 8 as the start of National Women's History Week and in 1987, Congress officially declared the month of March as Women's History Month; and*

***WHEREAS**, Women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements, especially the peace movement, which create a more fair and just society for all; and*

***WHEREAS**, we honor all the women who have invested their time, talent, and effort into the City of Sun Prairie's betterment through service, commitment, and value of a community that thrives for everyone; and*

***WHEREAS**, this time serves as both a celebration and reminder that women's history is not limited to one month; and*

***WHEREAS**, The City of Sun Prairie is committed to living out our guiding principles of advancing equity, honoring our diverse identity, and creating an inclusive culture for all who seek to live, work, and play here.*

***NOW THEREFORE**, I, Paul Esser, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor, on behalf of the City of Sun Prairie, hereby proclaim March 2023 as*

## ***Women's History Month***

*And encourage everyone to acknowledge and celebrate the many achievements and contributions of women this month and beyond.*

***IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Sun Prairie to be affixed on this the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023.  
Paul Esser, Mayor*