

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan

#070693

11/26/07

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Rosa Louise McCauly Parks was born on February 4, 1913 in Tuskegee, Alabama and, as a young woman, dedicated herself to service to her community, to the local NAACP, and was a devoted wife to husband, Raymond, a model citizen, faithful church member, and loyal friend; and

WHEREAS, Rosa Parks was an advocate for education and community involvement in order to improve the lot of African-Americans in the segregated South; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Parks, through her tireless efforts and unwavering principles, refused to allow herself and others to be treated as second-class citizens in America because of the color of their skin; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 1955, Mrs. Parks displayed quiet courage and dignity on a Montgomery, Alabama city bus when she refused to give her seat to a white passenger, as directed by a local city ordinance, and was removed from the bus and arrested; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Parks' actions led to a city-wide bus boycott, which then led to the beginnings of the modern day civil-rights movements that transformed the nation and the world, and led to the emergence of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a national leader and Nobel Peace prize winner; and

WHEREAS, racism, prejudice and hate continue to persist today in our nation and society, and in order to give due respect and honor to Rosa Parks and the legacy she leaves behind in her passing on October 24, 2005, all residents of the City of Gainesville are invited to recognize and participate in "Rosa Parks Day".

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pegeen Hanrahan, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2007 as

Rosa Parks Day

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in celebrating the life and legacy of Rosa Parks, the "Mother of the Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement" and recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1996, for her contribution to history and to the struggle for peace, justice and freedom for our nation and throughout the entire world.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 20th day of November, A.D., 2007.

Pegeen Hanrahan
Mayor