JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA REQUEST

TO:

Board of County Commissioners

FROM:

Adiel McKnight, Executive Assistant

DATE:

November 7, 2022

SUBJECT:

PROCLAMATION re: Recognizing November 15, 2022 as America Recycles

Day

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

The proposed proclamation recognizes the importance of recycling. The day raises awareness about recycling and the purchasing of recycled products. How we recycle and reuse products are important. For example, one-use water bottles flood America's waterways and landfills at a rate of 60 million per day. Reducing this number can be achieved with water filtration devices and using portable re-usable drinking bottles and cups. One area where we excel at recycling is aluminum. In fact, the U.S. recycles about 65% of its aluminum. That's more than any other recycled item. In America, 105,800 cans are recycled every minute. Your television can run for 3 hours from the energy saved by recycling one can. In 2019, an aluminum can was worth about 1.7 cents. The industry pays more than \$1 billion annually for recycled cans.

Our waste management professionals are a wealth of information regarding recycling. They can provide you the hard facts and steer you in the right direction. The role of waste management goes far beyond garbage collection. In each community, they provide various services and programs designed to protect and reduce the impact we have on our environment. Recycle, buy recycled goods and help teach others the benefits of recycling and continue to do so each day!

The National Recycling Coalition created America Recycles Day in 1997. Since 2009, this day has been a program of Keep America Beautiful. Organizations host thousands of events across the United States to raise awareness about the importance of recycling and offer personal pledges that you can sign, committing to recycling and buying products made from recycled materials.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Today's proclamation has no direct fiscal cost.

RECOMMENDATION:

That BoCC approve the attached Proclamation.

REVIEWED BY:

Mark McCauley, County Administrator

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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, today, half of all global greenhouse gas emissions are created when natural resources are taken from the Earth and made into usable products; and

WHEREAS, by reducing, reusing, and recycling, we can decrease waste and the greenhouse gases that fuel the climate crisis while protecting our communities and our environment; and

WHEREAS, although we have made significant progress since the first America Recycles Day over two decades ago, we still have work to do; and

WHEREAS, our Nation's infrastructure has not kept pace with today's changing waste stream, and markets for recycled materials are decreasing; and

WHEREAS, to improve our national recycling system and manage our precious resources equitably and sustainably, it is going to take all of us — including Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, our partners in the private sector, and individual Americans making a difference in their communities; and

WHEREAS, we must continue to work together to properly recycle and manage materials throughout their lifecycles and ensure that every American's right to a healthy environment is fulfilled and protected;

NOW, THEREFORE, on America Recycles Day, we celebrate efforts across the county to manage our resources responsibly and creatively, and we recommit ourselves to building a brighter and more sustainable future for all people. Jefferson County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim the 15th day of November, 2022, as

America Recycles Day

In recognition of this important function, we call upon all individuals to pay appropriate attention to the environment of our County and encourage all Jefferson County residents to recycle.

PROCLAIMED this 7th day of November, 2022.

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SEAL:

Heidi Eisenhour, Chair

ATTEST:

Kate Dean, Member

Carolyn Gallaway, CMC, Clerk of the Board

Greg Brotherton, Member