PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Deafness is the physiological loss or absence of hearing that impacts individuals from all walks of life regardless of age, race, gender or social and economic status; and

WHEREAS, 48 million Americans have some degree of deafness or hearing loss; and

WHEREAS, data from 2015 estimates 86,235 North Dakota residents have varying levels of deafness and hearing loss; and

WHEREAS, progress in creating access to job opportunities, qualified interpreters and hearing assistive technology has drastically improved quality of life for deaf individuals across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the North Dakota deaf community has celebrated many achievements in 2018 including: collaborating with major movie theatres to offer open caption screenings; partnering with the City of Fargo and Streets Alive! to install sign language artistic bike racks in downtown Fargo; coordinating the first American Sign Language Night with the F-M RedHawks; and organizing the inaugural Deaf Awareness Week activities; and

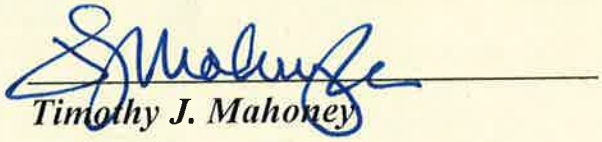
WHEREAS, the last full week of September is internationally recognized as Deaf Awareness Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That I, Timothy J. Mahoney, Mayor of the City of Fargo, do hereby proclaim September 24-30, 2018, to be

DEAF AWARENESS WEEK

in the City of Fargo, North Dakota and urge its citizens to aid in creating a more Deaf Friendly Fargo.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Fargo, North Dakota to be affixed this 20th day of August, 2018.



Timothy J. Mahoney
Mayor
Fargo, North Dakota