

# PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** Donna Gaukler has devoted nearly five decades to the field of parks and recreation, including 34 years with the City of Missoula Parks and Recreation Department and 23 years as its director; and
- WHEREAS,** Donna's leadership has shaped the landscape, programs, and partnerships that define Missoula's identity and quality of life, reflecting her conviction that parks and recreation are essential to community well-being and consistently crediting dedicated staff, residents, community partners, and volunteers as essential to this work; and
- WHEREAS,** under her direction, the City completed many transformational projects, including Splash Montana, Currents Aquatics Center, MOBASH Skatepark, and Fort Missoula Regional Park, while stewarding four voter-approved bonds that expanded Missoula's park system to over 50 developed parks, more than 4,000 acres of conservation land, and one of the most accessible urban trail systems in the region; and
- WHEREAS,** Donna championed access and inclusion, ensuring residents of all ages, incomes, backgrounds, and abilities could participate in recreation and connect with nature close to home, advancing projects and programs that will serve generations to come; and
- WHEREAS,** Donna has been an integral member of the City's Senior Leadership Team, contributing thoughtful perspective, collaborative leadership, and clear guidance in shaping citywide policy and her integrity, generosity, and commitment to public service embody the values of the City of Missoula and the spirit that makes our community strong.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Andrea Davis, Mayor of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, hereby recognize the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025 as:

## DONNA GAUKLER DAY

in the City of Missoula and encourage all residents to join in recognizing her extraordinary service and the lasting legacy of belonging, stewardship, and community she has helped cultivate.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, to be affixed at Missoula, Montana, on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of November, in the year two thousand twenty-five.



Andrea Davis  
Mayor