

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the National Fire Protection Association named the second week of October as Fire Prevention week in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871; and,

WHEREAS, According to the National Archives and Records Administration's Library Information Center, Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record and the President of the United States has signed a proclamation declaring a national observance during that week every year since 1925; and,

WHEREAS, local fire departments responded to 1,504,500 fires in 2022. These fires caused 3,790 civilian deaths, 13,250 civilian injuries and over \$18 billion in property damage according to the US Fire Administration; and,

WHEREAS, the Downers Grove Fire Department sponsors an annual Fire Prevention Program; and,

WHEREAS, the Downers Grove Fire Department's primary concern and interest is the 24/7/365 safety and protection of life and property in the Village of Downers Grove; and,

WHEREAS, the Downers Grove Fire Department renders a vital public safety and prevention service in the Village of Downers Grove through education, inspection, drills and plan reviews and responding to over 7,500 calls for service last year; and,

WHEREAS, the theme of the 2024 Fire Prevention Week is "**SMOKE ALARMS: MAKE THEM WORK FOR YOU!**" and strives to educate everyone about importance of having working smoke alarms in the home; and,

WHEREAS, more than one-third of home fire deaths resulted from fires in which no smoke alarms were present; and,

WHEREAS, the observance of Fire Prevention Week provides an excellent opportunity for individuals to make sure their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms meet the needs of all their family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities, and to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert T. Barnett, Mayor of the Village of Downers Grove, do hereby proclaim the week of October 6-12, 2024, to be **FIRE PREVENTION WEEK** in the Village of Downers Grove and encourage all residents to educate themselves on fire prevention, fire safety and family emergency escape planning and to support, and engage with, the many public safety education activities and efforts of the Downers Grove Fire Department.

Dated this 8th day of October 2024, at Downers Grove, Illinois.



Mayor