

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, historic preservation can be a tool for revitalizing and sustaining neighborhoods, fostering local pride and maintaining a sense of place while enhancing livability; and,

WHEREAS, historic preservation is relevant for communities across the nation, both urban and rural, and for Americans of all ages, all walks of life and all ethnic backgrounds; and,

WHEREAS, it is important to celebrate the role of history in forming our lives today and to recognize the contributions made by dedicated individuals in helping to preserve the tangible aspects of the heritage that has shaped us as a community – reminding us of how far we've come and how far we still have to go.; and,

WHEREAS, historic preservation Month began as National Preservation Week in 1973 and was extended to include the month of May in 2005 by the National Trust; and,

WHEREAS, "*All People Are Created Equal*" is the theme for Historic Preservation Month 2026 and celebrates the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence by highlighting sites that reflect the full, inclusive American story and the principle that all people are created equal; and,

WHEREAS, the 2026 Historic Preservation Month theme emphasizes protecting places that foster civic connection and honor diverse histories.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert T. Barnett, Mayor of the Village of Downers Grove, do hereby proclaim May 2026 as **HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH** in the Village of Downers Grove and encourage residents and businesses to get engaged with your local historical society, visit and tour historic sites locally and when traveling and help build awareness and share your love of historic places on social media using #thisplacematters hashtags.

Dated this 5th day of May 2026, at Downers Grove, Illinois.



Robert T. Barnett, Mayor