Proclamation

Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, safe, clean, and sustainable water resources are essential to Florida's environment, economy, citizens, and visitors, and although water supplies are finite, the state's population and need for water resources continue to increase; and

WHEREAS, water reuse provides a means for conserving and augmenting Florida's precious water resources and is key to the state's sustainable water future; and

WHEREAS, Florida has established the encouragement and promotion of water reuse as state objectives in Chapters 373 and 403 of the Florida Statutes, and the state has risen to be a national leader in water reuse – reusing 820 million gallons of reclaimed water per day to conserve freshwater supplies and replenish its rivers, streams, lakes, and aquifers; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa has joined with the Florida Water Environment Association, WateReuse Florida, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and the Southwest Florida Water Management District in encouraging and promoting water reuse and conservation, and currently Tampa's homeowners, businesses and industries reuse more than 6 million gallons of water each day with the goal of increasing reuse to 50 million gallons daily; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa has been using reclaimed water at the Howard F. Curren Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant since 1979, the MacKay Bay Refuse to Energy Plant starting in 1985, in the South Tampa Area Reclaimed Water (STAR) area beginning in 2003, and at Tampa International Airport since 2009, and is dedicated in encouraging the efficient and effective use of reclaimed water.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim May 15-21, 2022, as

"FLORIDA WATER REUSE WEEK"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and call upon each citizen and business to help protect our precious water resources by practicing water conservation and use reclaimed water in an efficient and effective manner.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 5th day of April 2022.

Jane Castor

Mayor