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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, held on the third Saturday every May, **National Kids to Parks Day** was established by the National Park Trust (NPT) as an annual day of outdoor exploration at local, state, and national parks and public lands, and it connects the youth of America with nature and encourages them to discover the outdoors, especially the parks in their communities; and

WHEREAS, this annual Kids to Parks Day fosters future outdoor enthusiasts and helps to develop the next generation of park stewards by engaging children in creating memorable experiences while promoting exercise and healthy choices; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa Parks and Recreation Department, a National Gold Medal Award for Excellence recipient, stresses the significance of promoting healthy lifestyles and the importance of committing to exercise at a young age, and the parks and recreation facilities in Tampa, Florida provide opportunities for a safe and beautiful environment in which to develop healthier, more active lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa, Florida, along with many cities across the United States of America, are encouraging its citizens to explore the wide range of recreational activities available to them, especially through the Parks and Recreation Department, where a variety of fun and exercise can be enjoyed by the entire family; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of cities across the country, including Tampa, have pledged to support programs such as National Park Trust's *Kids to Parks Day* to get more kids to parks, promote healthier lifestyles, and to help facilitate raising a healthier generation of children; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is recognizing National Kids to Parks Day to help encourage children's appreciation for the outdoors and recreational activity, and to promote the abundance of activities in our community, and its Parks & Recreation Department and the Tampa Police Department are hosting the **Annual Kids to Parks Day** at Copeland and MacFarlane Parks on Saturday, May 20, 2023, featuring fun games, activities, a rodeo, and more.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 20, 2023, as

"NATIONAL KIDS TO PARKS DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in attending the beautiful parks in the city of Tampa and promoting healthy, active lifestyles, especially among the youth in our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 4th day of May 2023.

Mayor

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