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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, water is one of Tampa, Florida's most valuable natural resources, and a basic and essential element of life; and

WHEREAS, the health, comfort, safety, and economic vitality of the Tampa community and its citizens depend on a readily available supply of safe, high-quality potable water, and our tap water delivers public health and fire protection, and it supports our economy and the quality of life for our area; and

WHEREAS, any measure of a successful society – low mortality rates, economic growth, diversity, productivity, and public safety – is greatly influenced by its access to safe drinking water, and many dedicated men and women have made, and continue to make significant contributions to the development, operation, and daily maintenance of our public water systems, and the coronavirus pandemic brought to light the importance of drinking water for health, hydration, and hygiene needs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa Water Department, which has earned high marks for customer satisfaction in national surveys and benefits all city residents, is dedicated to excellence, and the hard work performed by the entire department includes designing capital projects, ensuring the safety and quality of drinking water, maintenance of the important infrastructure that communities rely on that transports the water from its source to consumers' taps, and more; and

WHEREAS, we are all charged with being stewards of the water infrastructure upon which future generations will depend on to receive clean drinking water, and it is vitally important to remember the value of our water resources; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa encourages each citizen to join in the efforts to help protect the Hillsborough River and other source waters from pollution to practice water conservation, and to get involved in local water issues by understanding our region's surface water, groundwater, and alternative water sources.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the week of May 4-10, 2025, as

"DRINKING WATER WEEK"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to help protect our water sources from trash and polluted runoff, practice water conservation, encourage the use of reclaimed water, and support the efforts of the individuals who are dedicated to ensuring our city's growing water needs will be met in the safest, most efficient, and expeditious manner.

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Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 2nd day of May 2025.