

# Proclamation



*Pam Iorio, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, Soldier Ride is an event designed to help wounded warriors restore their physical and emotional well-being and also raise awareness for the Wounded Warrior Project (WWP). The mission of WWP is to enlist the public's assistance for the needs of injured service members, to help injured servicemen and women aid and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the first Soldier Ride was held in 2004 when civilian Chris Carney completed a coast-to-coast bicycle ride in support of the Wounded Warrior Project, raising more than \$1 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the following year the ride was repeated and included several combat-wounded veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. In 2007, Soldier Ride went regional with seven rides across the country and added registered fundraiser rides to the schedule. This allowed the general public to ride along with the wounded veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2008 President Bush invited the riders to the White House, calling Soldier Ride "the most inspiring athletic event in the country." In 2009 even more cities were added and again the kick-off was held at the White House; and

**WHEREAS**, Wounded Warrior Project's 2011 Soldier Ride will include 12 cities across the United States, including Tampa. Arriving here on February 20, the ride will kick-off at Westshore Mall (Macy's) at 8:00 am; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa is proud to be a host city for this event that will raise funds and awareness for the Wounded Warrior Project.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Pam Iorio, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim February 20, 2011 as

## *"TAMPA SOLDIER RIDE DAY"*

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to welcome these riders to our city and to participate in the event by either donating, registering to ride, or cheering them on during their first visit to our city.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2011.



*Pam Iorio*  
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Mayor