Proclamation

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, for more than a century, the bicycle and traveling by foot has been an important part of the lives of many Americans; and

WHEREAS, today, millions of Americans engage in bicycling and walking because it is a viable and environmentally sound means of transportation, an excellent form of fitness, provides quality family recreation, and can save a family hundreds of dollars in gasoline costs; and

WHEREAS, many motor vehicle trips Americans take are less than one mile long, and much of the working population commutes five miles or less to work, the City of Tampa agrees that cycling and walking are viable transportation alternatives and promotes them as a key components of our sustainable transportation efforts while reducing the reliance on oil; and

WHEREAS, with recent oil spill disasters and the possibility of more oil spill occurrences present, it is important for alternate modes of transportation be explored and utilized, and bicycle and foot travel do not rely on fossil fuels and are non-polluting means of travel; and

WHEREAS, to promote the environmental and health benefits of cycling and walking, while encouraging Tampa residents to rely more on these alternate means of transportation and less on fossil fuel-powered motor vehicles, the bicycling and walking enthusiast of the Tampa Bay area are bringing awareness to the community by asking others to declare their independence from oil by leaving their vehicles parked on July 4th and bike or walk to their destinations.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim July 4, 2011 as

"INDEPENDENCE FROM OIL DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all residents to try bicycling and walking as a form of transportation that protects the environment and in acknowledging all those involved in this campaign for their commitment.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1st day of July, 2011.

Bob Buckhorn
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Mayor