

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

**WHEREAS**, this holiday, called "Arbor Day" was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

**WHEREAS**, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and celebrated annually in Florida on the third Friday in January; and

**WHEREAS**, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim January 20, 2012 as

## "FLORIDA ARBOR DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in supporting efforts to protect our trees and woodland and to support our city's urban forestry programs.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 5th day of January, 2012.



Mayor

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