

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, to raise awareness of the vital role rail plays in our nation's transportation system, the Friends of Tampa Union Station is celebrating its annual **Tampa Train Day** on Saturday, May 11, 2019, which will be the culmination of weeks of promotions and partnerships with local organizations; and

WHEREAS, known as one of the best ways to discover the beauty of our country, train travel is also a part of America's cultural heritage and can be found in our music, movies and literature, and in 2019, our nation is celebrating the *150th Anniversary* of the driving of the Golden Spike, which marked the completion of the first Transcontinental Railroad at Promontory Summit, Utah on May 10, 1869, connecting the Central Pacific and Union Pacific railroads; and

WHEREAS, while National Train Day was initiated by Amtrak in an effort to build awareness of the comfort, ease and efficiency of train travel and the network of services available from coast to coast, other groups with an interest in train travel and history have become involved, such as the National Association of Railroad Passengers, the Florida Coalition of Rail Passengers, and Friends of Tampa Union Station; and

WHEREAS, Historic Tampa Union Station in Tampa, Florida opened in May of 1912, and has continued to serve as a monumental gateway for Tampa travelers for over 100 years; and

WHEREAS, through their municipal government, the residents of the city of Tampa are the proud owners of the historic 1912 Tampa Union Station, a City of Tampa designated Landmark, which is also on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, ordinary citizens have united with the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay to build a permanent endowment fund with private donations to help support Tampa Union Station's present and future as a cultural and transportation asset; and

WHEREAS, Tampa Union Station will be the site of festivities honoring railroads past, present and future with by Amtrak, CSX Corporation, Virgin Trains USA/Brightline, Florida Railroad Museum, the Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library, the Suncoast American Flyer Enthusiasts, and many others.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, Mayor of Tampa, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 11, 2019 as

"TAMPA TRAIN DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to recognize the vital role rail plays in the success of our city and to take part in activities planned to celebrate this industry and all those who have been involved through the years.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 10th day of May, 2019.



Jane Castor

Mayor