

WHEREAS, the City of Delray Beach, Florida is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Delray Beach; and

WHEREAS, U.S. fire departments responded to 1,318,500 home fires in 2018, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA); and

WHEREAS, U.S. home fires resulted in 3,655 civilian deaths in 2018, representing the majority (78 percent) of all U.S. fire deaths; and

WHEREAS, newer homes are built with lightweight materials that burn faster than older home constructions; and

WHEREAS, these conditions contribute to a much smaller window of time for people to escape a home fire safely, with people having as little as one to two minutes to escape from the time the smoke alarm sounds; and

WHEREAS, a home fire escape plan includes two exits from every room in the home; a path to the outside from each exit; smoke alarms in all required locations; and a meeting place outside where everyone in the home will meet upon exiting; and

WHEREAS, practicing a home fire escape plan twice a year ensures that everyone in the household knows what to do in a real fire situation; and

WHEREAS, Delray Beach's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, Delray Beach's residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Fire Prevention Month theme, "Serve up fire safety in the kitchen. The focus will be on cooking fire safety. home cooking fires representing the leading cause of U.S. home fires, with nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment; unattended cooking is the leading cause of these fires. "Cooking continues to be a major contributor to the home fire problem,"

NOW THEREFORE, I Shelly Petrolia, Mayor of the City of Delray Beach do hereby proclaim October 2020 as:

Fire Prevention Month

throughout this community and urge all of Delray Beach to participate in the many public safety activities and efforts of Delray Beach's Fire Rescue Department during Fire Prevention Month 2020.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 6th day of October 2020.

**SHELLY PETROLIA
MAYOR**