

**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 1,291,500 home fires in 2019, according to the U.S. Fire Association (USFA); and

**WHEREAS**, U.S. home fires resulted in 3,704 civilian deaths in 2019, representing the majority (72 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 2021 Fire Prevention Month theme is, "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety" . From beeps to chirps, this year's campaign works to better educate the public about the sounds smoke alarms make, what those sounds mean, and how to respond to them.

**NOW THEREFORE, I Shelly Petrolia, Mayor of the City of Delray Beach** do hereby proclaim October 2021 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 2021.

**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 5<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021.

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**SHELLY PETROLIA**  
**MAYOR**