

National Historic Preservation Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, historic preservation is an effective tool for communities across the nation, for managing growth and sustainable development, revitalizing neighborhoods, fostering local pride and maintaining community character while enhancing livability; and

WHEREAS, it is important to celebrate the role of history in our lives and the contributions made by dedicated individuals in helping to preserve the tangible aspects of the heritage that has shaped us as a people; and

WHEREAS, the Elgin Main Street Board partners with organizations throughout the community to implement an award winning downtown revitalization program including Downtown 78621, the Hogeeye Festival, Small Business Saturday, Home for the Holidays, Holiday by the Tracks, Local Lore, Art Studio Tour, Sip Shop & Stroll, Paint and Dumpster Reimbursement programs, educational classes, networking events, promotional events, and more; and

WHEREAS, downtown Elgin is home to the Union Depot Museum which is run by volunteers through the leadership of the Elgin Historical Association, has a downtown district that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, has a transit stop with daily week day service from CARTS, Capital Area Rural Transportation System, the Mary Christian Burleson Foundation, and actively supports historic preservation and awareness throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, Elgin is celebrating 29 years as a Texas Main Street City with more than \$18 million in public & private sector reinvestment, 22,000 volunteer hours, including since 2015 ten buildings restored with 41,000 sq.ft., 15 new businesses, and 24 loft apartments downtown, in addition to four active restoration projects and one new construction project; and

WHEREAS, Elgin has been recognized annually as a Nationally Accredited Main Street Community by the Texas Historic Commission and the National Trust for Historic Preservation since 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Elgin Main Street Board was recognized in 2012 with the Brick of the Community award from the Elgin Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, May is National Historic Preservation Month, cosponsored by Elgin Main Street Board, the City of Elgin, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor of the City of Elgin, do proclaim May 2019 as Historic Preservation Awareness Month, and call upon the people of Elgin to join their fellow citizens across the United States in recognizing and participating in this special observance.

Chris Cannon, Mayor