

The City of Holland, Michigan



Proclamation

WHEREAS, in 1978, United States President Jimmy Carter, by proclamation, established National Good Neighbor Day, eventually set to occur on September 28 of each year, a day set aside to observe the importance of neighboring, neighborhoods, and community; and

WHEREAS, research shows that neighborhoods are a vital factor in creating safe, healthy, inclusive, and flourishing communities; and

WHEREAS, as a society we have witnessed an alarming rise in loneliness and isolation, with troubling impacts on the physical and mental health, life expectancy, and well-being of individuals within all communities; and

WHEREAS, it has been established that the development of more socially cohesive and inclusive neighborhoods *positively* impacts the physical and mental health, life expectancy and overall well-being of individuals; and

WHEREAS, neighborhoods and cities are healthier, their economies are stronger, and their social problems more limited and manageable when people who live in proximity to one another experience a shared sense of belonging and connectedness; and

WHEREAS, it has been demonstrated that communities with strong neighbor to neighbor connections show greater civic pride and engagement, and more effective crime prevention, disaster response, and economic resilience; and

WHEREAS, the City of Holland is fortunate to benefit from the efforts of the countless number of Holland residents who display neighborliness every day on their blocks, within their apartment buildings, and in their neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the City of Holland is also fortunate to benefit from the efforts of numerous groups and organizations working intently to build stronger and more connected neighborhoods, including Heights of Hope, 3Sixty, Westcore Neighbors, Washington School Neighbors, and CommunityWorks.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nathan Bocks, Mayor of the City of Holland, Michigan, and members of the Holland City Council, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2024 as

National Good Neighbor Day

in the City of Holland, and I urge all citizens to celebrate National Good Neighbor Day by making a genuine and renewed effort to support the flourishing of your neighborhood, not just on September 28, but throughout the year.



Given under my hand and the seal of the
City of Holland, this 18th of September 2024

Mayor Nathan Bocks