

PROCLAMATION DECLARING "UNIVERSITY PARK VEGWEEK"

WHEREAS, The Town of University Park is dedicated to sustainability; and

WHEREAS, VegWeek would support local businesses which promote plant-based eating in the area and stimulate the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations has formally recognized that "climate change is the defining issue of our time and we are at a defining moment," and that "livestock are one of the most significant contributors to today's most serious environmental problems;" and

WHEREAS, recent studies and reports have demonstrated that we can lower our carbon footprint simply by reducing the amount of animal-based foods we eat; and

WHEREAS, a whole-foods, plant-based diet has been shown to use fewer resources and cause less pollution than diets incorporating animal products; and

WHEREAS, more than two-thirds of the adult population in the United States and nearly a third of children and teens are overweight or obese, and obesity is associated with a higher risk of various health ailments including heart disease, the leading cause of death in the United States, and type-2 diabetes; and

WHEREAS, research from the National Institutes of Health recognizes "the health risks of eating high amounts of red meat, which has been associated with type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease, stroke and certain cancers in other studies,"

WHEREAS, a growing number of people are reducing their consumption of animal products to help prevent animal cruelty; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, thousands of US residents nationwide have pledged to try plant-based eating for a week or more in support of VegWeek; and

WHEREAS, the Town of University Park wishes to join the growing number of municipalities in recognizing VegWeek to encourage residents, restaurants, schools, grocery stores, organizations, and other institutions to promote plant-based eating.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Town of University Park hereby dedicates and proclaims the week of May 19, 2024 to be the first "University Park VegWeek,".


Mayor _____
Joel T. Biermann