

# Proclamation

## IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE DAY JUNE 4, 2019

- WHEREAS,** There are 225,516 females in Colorado Springs making up over half of our total population; and
- WHEREAS,** On June 4<sup>th</sup>, 1919 the Senate passed the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granting American women the right to vote in federal elections. The amendment became law on August 18, 1920; and
- WHEREAS,** The 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granted American women the right to vote, a right known as women's suffrage ending almost a century of protest; and
- WHEREAS,** The woman suffrage movement began in 1848, when a women's rights convention was held in Seneca Falls, New York. The movement for women's rights launched on a national level with the Seneca Falls Convention organized by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott; and
- WHEREAS,** For the next 50 years, woman suffrage supporters worked to educate the public. Under the leadership of Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and other women's rights pioneers, suffragists circulated petitions and lobbied Congress to pass a constitutional amendment to enfranchise women; and
- WHEREAS,** Locally, many sacrifices were made by three suffragists, Dr. Caroline Spencer, a licensed physician and organizer of the radical wing of the women's suffrage movement in CO, Natalie Gray, the daughter of progressive leaders and Berthe Arnold, a local Colorado Springs resident; and
- WHEREAS,** These women not only protested for equal rights locally but traveled to Washington D.C to picket the Woodrow Wilson Whitehouse for the vote, where they were treated terribly, were arrested and imprisoned for their efforts; and
- WHEREAS,** In 1920, due to the combined efforts of the NAWSA and the NWP, the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, enfranchising women, was finally ratified. This victory is considered the most significant achievement of women in the Progressive Era. It was the single largest extension of democratic voting rights in our nation's history, and it was achieved through democratic processes.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Richard Skorman, President of the Colorado Springs City Council, do hereby proclaim the day of June 4, 2019 as

### WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE DAY

in Colorado Springs and celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its passing.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Great Seal of the City of Colorado Springs to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2019.