

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ - 24

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2024 AS NATIONAL SERVICE DOG MONTH

WHEREAS, September is National Service Dog Month, a time devoted to raising awareness and showing appreciation for the extraordinary work service dogs do every day for the people they serve; and

WHEREAS, service dogs are specially trained to perform specific tasks for people with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. They can be trained to retrieve objects, assist with balance, guide those with visual impairment, alert to sounds for the hearing impaired, give medical alerts, or assist with daily tasks for people with physical impairment. They also serve our nation's wounded warriors suffering from conditions including Post-Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury; and

WHEREAS, service dogs provide independence while inspiring confidence, and they live to serve, protect, and assist their handlers. Service Dogs receive hundreds of hours of specialized training on specific, skilled tasks; and

WHEREAS, City Council has its own service dog on staff. Puma, is the first service dog to ever serve on City Council and has been on Council for over seven years. Puma is a very good boy and a wonderful ambassador for City Council.

WHEREAS, it is important that service dog teams can access public places safely and confidently. In honor of National Service Dog Month, we are asking people to raise a paw to protect the rights of service dogs and their handlers.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:**

Section 1. That City Council hereby recognizes September 2024 as National Service Dog Month in the City of Colorado Springs.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado this 27th day of August, 2024.

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Council President

ATTEST:

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Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk