



# *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS,** Keep America Beautiful® is the nation's iconic community improvement nonprofit organization that envisions a country in which every community is a clean, green and beautiful place to live, and has established the Great American Cleanup as its signature national effort for involving American citizens in improving their community environment;

**WHEREAS,** the Keep America Beautiful Great American Cleanup is the nation's largest community improvement program, engaging more than 1.5 million volunteers and participants every year to create positive change and lasting impact in local communities; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Gastonia seeks to protect its natural resources and bring people together to transform public spaces into beautiful places; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Gastonia recognizes Keep Gastonia Beautiful for its commitment to engage citizens, civic and government officials, and business leaders to work together to end littering, improve recycling, and beautify our community; and

**WHEREAS,** Keep Gastonia Beautiful and the City of Gastonia are committed to elevate the importance of volunteerism and motivate everyone in our community to become stewards of the environment; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Richard Franks, Mayor, and the City Council of the City of Gastonia do hereby proclaim the weeks of March 20 – June 20, 2024 as our municipality's observance of **The Great American Cleanup**, urging all citizens to recognize this observance and join Keep Gastonia Beautiful in their continued efforts to educate the citizens of Gastonia on the importance of litter abatement and desire to keep our city looking clean and green.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Gastonia to be affixed this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four.

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Richard Franks, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Suzanne J. Gibbs, City Clerk