

City of Rochester



Proclamation

WHEREAS, this week we celebrate Welcoming Week as a way of creating home together and fostering a sense of belonging, along with communities around the world. Welcoming Week is about bringing neighbors together across lines of difference to build relationships and work together on shared goals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rochester is uniting with a network of local governments and nonprofits around the nation and world that have pledged to become more welcoming places by joining the nonprofit Welcoming America Network; and

WHEREAS, Rochester, Minnesota is home to people of all backgrounds, including those who were not born in this nation, but now call it home. Rochester's success depends on making sure that all Rochester feel welcome here. New Rochester residents are a vital part of our community, alongside our long-time residents - bringing ideas, starting businesses, serving in civic roles, working in critical industries, and contributing to the vibrant diversity that we value; and

WHEREAS, to capitalize on diversity as an asset, our community needs to continually strive to create a culture and policies that ensure everyone can belong and thrive; and

WHEREAS, regardless of where we are born or what we look like, we are Rochester residents, and our lives are interdependent. It is time to come together to build communities where every resident has the opportunity to thrive and contribute their best; and

WHEREAS, by fostering a welcoming environment for all individuals, regardless of immigration status, race, ethnicity, place of origin, English language proficiency, religion, income, gender, sexual orientation, differing abilities, age, and other factors, we enhance Rochester's health, economic prosperity, and community well-being for current and future generations.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Kim Norton, Mayor of the City of Rochester, Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of September 9-18, 2022 as

Welcoming Week

in Rochester, Minnesota and call on our residents to reach across lines of difference and participate in one or more of the Welcoming Week events across the City of Rochester. I also call on business leaders, civic groups, government agencies, and community institutions to undertake their own initiatives, alongside the city's, and beyond Welcoming Week to make the region a more welcoming place for new and long-term residents alike.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the corporate seal of the City of Rochester to be affixed this 17th day of September, 2022.

Kim Norton, Mayor
City of Rochester, Minnesota