

PROCLAIMING JUNE 21, 2007

AS

GO SKATEBOARDING DAY

IN THE CITY OF HAMPTON

WHEREAS, it was not until the 1950's that people realized that skateboarding could re-create the feeling of riding a wave, and that connection with surfing gave skateboarding a direction that would influence everything from maneuvers and style to fashion and attitude; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960's, companies began to mass produce the first surfing-inspired skateboards, and the first skateboard contest was held in 1963 at Hermosa Beach, California; and

WHEREAS, skateboarding is now a 5.2 billion dollar business; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 12 million skateboarders in the United States, and the sport continues to grow, becoming a major part of the youth culture in Hampton Roads; and

WHEREAS, skateboarding is enjoyed by kids as young as two years old, but the majority of pro skaters range from early teens to early twenties; and

WHEREAS, skateboarding has experienced a large growth stage with the construction of numerous skateparks and has evolved to include vertical skating among its disciplines of slalom, downhill, freestyle and longjump; and

WHEREAS, since June 21 is the first day of summer, that date was set for the third annual "Go Skateboarding Day" in the City of Hampton, and participants in the event will include Mike's Surf Shop, surrounding businesses, 96X and The Zone radio stations, skateboard vendors and the City of Hampton; and

WHEREAS, last year, an estimated twenty million people from North America, Europe, Australia and Japan participated in the international activities, and in the City of Hampton, approximately 1,000 persons attended the local "Go Skateboarding Day" event;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ross A. Kearney, II, Mayor, on behalf of the City Council of the City of Hampton, Virginia, do hereby proclaim June 21, 2007 as

GO SKATEBOARDING DAY

in the City of Hampton and encourage all citizens to take a break and get together with friends and family to enjoy the fun of skateboarding and other activities in the parking lot of the Farm Fresh Shopping Center on Coliseum Drive.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Hampton, Virginia, to be affixed, this Twenty-Third Day of May, Two Thousand and Seven.

Ross A. Kearney, II
Mayor