Volunteer Appreciation Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, the month of April has been designated nationally as Volunteer Appreciation Month to recognize the hard work, dedication and passion of volunteers and national service members throughout our nation; and

WHEREAS, last year, more than 65 million Americans gave their time in service to our nation, which is a testament to the compassion and generosity of the American spirit; and

WHEREAS, the City of Orlando commemorates Volunteer Appreciation Month by recognizing its valued volunteers and national service members at the annual Mayor's Volunteer Appreciation Reception; and

WHEREAS, the Corporation for National and Community Service shares this priority with Orlando's elected officials, county officials and mayors nationwide by engaging citizens, improving lives and strengthening communities; and is joining with the National League of Cities, National Association of Counties, Cities of Service and mayors and county officials across the country in April for the Mayors and County Recognition Day for National Service; and

WHEREAS, Orlando believes that government alone cannot meet all of our city's needs, so we partner with businesses, faith-based organizations, non-profit organizations, foundations and individuals who serve in city government and in our community to make a difference; and

WHEREAS, the City is committed to encouraging volunteerism and national service among its employees, citizens, partners, businesses and organizations and thanks all volunteers and AmeriCorps and Senior Corp members in Metro Orlando for their dedicated service; and

WHEREAS, the City is a proud member of the national Cities of Service Coalition, implementing Mayor Dyer's Cities of Service initiative: *Orlando Cares*, to engage residents and partners in "impact volunteering," along with other volunteer or national service programs in many City departments, including the Executive Offices, Orlando Police, Families, Parks and Recreation, Orlando Fire, Orlando Venues and others;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Buddy Dyer, Mayor of the City of Orlando, hereby do proclaim the month of April 2017 as

"Volunteer Appreciation Month"

in the City of Orlando, and urge our residents to recognize the positive impact of volunteerism and national service in our communities.