CITY OF HARRISONBURG
CITY COUNCIL

HARRISONBURG CITY HALL
409 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HARRISONBURG, VA 22801
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A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 22, 2026 AS NATIONAL LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY

WHEREAS, the citizens of Harrisonburg, Virginia, stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they provide safe, challenging and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical and academic skills; support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends; build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families and adults; and engage families, schools and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and

WHEREAS, Lights on Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 22, 2026, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities; and

WHEREAS, more than 28 million children in the U.S. have parents who work outside the home, and 15.1 million children have no place to go after school; and

WHEREAS, many afterschool programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights; and

WHEREAS, the city of Harrisonburg, Virginia, is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that will help close the achievement gap and prepare young people to compete in the global economy.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Deanna R. Reed, Mayor of the City of Harrisonburg, call upon all citizens of Harrisonburg to observe October 22nd , 2026 as Lights on Afterschool Day,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that I enthusiastically endorse Lights on Afterschool and commits our city to engage in innovative afterschool programs and activities that ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.

GIVEN under my hand this 13th day of October 2026.

BY: Deanna R. Reed
Deanna R. Reed, Mayor

ATTEST: Pamela Ulmer
Pamela Ulmer, City Clerk