

**WHEREAS**, the United States spends \$408 billion or approximately 2% of our national gross domestic product to grow, process, and dispose of food that is never eaten and reducing food waste can reduce this economic loss; and

**WHEREAS**, reducing food waste can help preserve our natural resources as food waste uses 21% of the country's freshwater, 19% of our fertilizer, 18% of our cropland, and 24% of our landfill volume; and

**WHEREAS**, activities to reduce food waste can provide economic opportunities for entrepreneurs and farmers to sell otherwise unsellable products, and for the private composting industry to grow; and

**WHEREAS**, up to 35% of all food produced is thrown away rather than eaten. Safe and nutritious food that is currently thrown away could help feed hungry people; and

**WHEREAS**, everyone benefits from better utilizing food resources; and

**WHEREAS**, a family of four can save an average of \$1,500 on uneaten food annually; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities have a special role in educating their communities to reduce, recover, and recycle food; and

**WHEREAS**, through the City's Vision 2030 process, sustainability and the environment continue to be highlighted as priorities by our community; and

**WHEREAS**, we have the opportunity to save shared resources, like land, water, and energy, used to produce and transport food that ultimately goes uneaten; and

**WHEREAS**, food in landfills decomposes slowly, releasing methane gas, which contributes to climate change.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Commission of the City of Coconut Creek, Florida, hereby proclaims the week of April 1 - 7, 2024, as

***“FOOD WASTE PREVENTION WEEK”***

and encourages all residents to commit to taking steps to reduce food waste in their homes, workplaces, and communities.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto  
set our hands and caused the seal of  
the City of Coconut Creek to be affixed  
this 14th day of March 2024.**