



# PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** on the evening of April 18, 1775, Paul Revere and William Dawes undertook a perilous ride to alert the Massachusetts countryside of impending hostile action from the British army, allowing colonists to prepare for what turned out to be the beginning of the Revolutionary War; and
- WHEREAS,** 250 years later, we recognize the significance of these events, not just for their pivotal role in America's history, but also for the precedent they set of a nation coming together to support their fellow countrymen and a single cause; and
- WHEREAS,** the two lanterns that signaled the invasion, "one if by land, and two if by sea," were immortalized in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem *Paul Revere's Ride*, and have become an enduring symbol of American vigilance, perseverance, and preparedness in the face of adversity; and
- WHEREAS,** those alarm riders and the citizens who answered the call to arms at the Battles of Lexington and Concord exemplify the spirit of community and shared responsibility that has defined our nation since its inception; and
- WHEREAS,** we are reminded, two and a half centuries later, that the call for unity and the call to serve each other is no less relevant today than it was then.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, John Bacon, Mayor of the City of Olathe, do hereby endorse the

## TWO LIGHTS FOR TOMORROW

national initiative, to be commemorated with the hanging of two lanterns at City buildings on April 18. Just as two lights shone through the darkness during Paul Revere's ride, today's lights illuminate our ongoing journey as a nation.

I call on all citizens to unite in remembrance of our shared history, honoring the sacrifices made by those who fought for our independence and reminding ourselves of the values we hold dear today.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Olathe to be affixed this 15th day of April, 2025.

John W. Bacon, Mayor

Brenda D. Swearingian, City Clerk