

Proclamation

Recognizing the

60th Anniversary of the Orange May Parade

WHEREAS, Orange's original May Festival parade traces its roots to 1933, and was created to unite residents through music, parades, picnics, and school participation; and

WHEREAS, the early festivals honored the rich citrus heritage of Orange and reflected the small-town values, volunteer spirit, and neighborly traditions that continue to define our community today; and

WHEREAS, despite interruptions during World War II and changing times throughout the latter half of the 20th century, the spirit of the Orange May Parade endured in the hearts and memories of the community; and after nearly three decades absent from the streets of Orange, the parade was proudly revived in 2019 through the dedication of community volunteers and civic organizations committed to preserving and renewing this historic tradition for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Orange May Parade continues to celebrate the unique character, history, and unity of the City of Orange while showcasing the enduring pride of its residents and the strength of its community partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Orange May Parade marks the 60th official parade celebration, representing more than nine decades of civic tradition, volunteerism, and community spirit; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Orange May Parade was proudly produced by the Orange Chamber of Commerce Foundation, whose volunteers, board members, sponsors, and community partners worked tirelessly for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Daniel R. Slater, Mayor of the City of Orange, and the entire City Council, do hereby recognize and celebrate the 60th Orange May Parade in May 2026, and extend our sincere appreciation to all past and present organizers, volunteers, sponsors, participants, and residents whose dedication has preserved this treasured Orange tradition.

DATED this 26th day of May 2026.

Daniel R. Slater, Mayor