



proclamation

WHEREAS, Hanover Park, and our nation, are blessed and enriched by the unparalleled diversity of our residents; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Hanover Park is committed to educating citizens about the world's religions, the value of religious diversity, tolerance grounded in First Amendment principles, a culture of mutual understanding, and the diminution of violence; and

WHEREAS: today, the Village of Hanover Park seeks to further the diversity of its community and afford all residents the opportunity to better understand, recognize, and appreciate the rich history and shared experiences of Sikh Americans; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world and today, there are more than 25 million Sikhs worldwide and an estimated 500,000 Americans of Sikh origin; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is an Indian religion that originated in the Punjab region of the Indian subcontinent, around the end of the 15th century, by Guru Nanak. Sikh means "learner" in Punjabi; and

WHEREAS, One of the core beliefs of Sikhism is Guru Nanak's teaching against discrimination and prejudice due to religion, race, caste or status; and

WHEREAS, Sikh Americans come from many walks of life and pursue diverse professions, making rich contributions to social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including services as members of the United States Armed Forces; they have made significant contributions to our great nation in agriculture, trucking, medicine and technology, and have distinguished themselves by fostering greater respect among all people through faith and service; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rodney S. Craig, President of the Village of Hanover Park, do hereby proclaim **April** as **Sikh Heritage Month** and urge all residents to better understand, recognize, and appreciate the rich history and shared experiences of Sikh Americans.

dated this 20th day of April, 2023

Rodney S. Craig
Mayor of the Village of Hanover Park

Kristy Merrill
Village Clerk