



## PROCLAMATION

### ARLINGTON SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION ARLINGTON-REIMS 20th ANNIVERSARY

**WHEREAS**, the Arlington Sister City Association (ASCA) established the Arlington-Reims partnership on July 1, 2005, following the original signing in August 28, 2004, by County Board Member Barbara Favola to promote friendship and mutual understanding between Arlington, Virginia and the city of Reims, France in working together for the benefit of their cities and nations; and

**WHEREAS**, through this dynamic partnership Arlington County and the city of Reims have engaged in many activities over these past 20 years including middle and high school student and teacher exchanges, cultural activities like concerts and book talks, commemorations of global events like World War I and World War II; and

**WHEREAS**, the ASCA Reims Committee maintains regular contact with its sister committee in Reims which has strengthened the friendship between our local government representatives, schools, and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 24, 2021, the ASCA Reims Committee hosted a French delegation from Reims and Châlons for the centennial commemoration at Arlington National Cemetery of the selection of the American Unknown Soldier in Châlons, France; and

**WHEREAS**, the ASCA Reims Committee held an expert-led discussion of our two cities' responses to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2022, and a presentation of the Washington and Reims Cathedrals in 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Arlington seeks to continue to deepen its Sister City relationship with the city of Reims to promote and broaden government relations, and cultural and educational exchanges between both cities; and

**WHEREAS**, this year we celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the ASCA Reims Committee;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the County Board of Arlington, Virginia, does hereby recognize the **ARLINGTON-REIMS 20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY** and urges our residents to celebrate the success of this relationship, and to honor the importance that this partnership has for strengthening the bonds between our local governments and residents.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Takis Karantonis".

Takis Karantonis  
Chair