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**Joint Board Matter with Supervisor Gross and Supervisor Smith  
Women's History Month 2023**

Members of the Board,

Women's History Month originated as “Women’s History Week” in 1982. Since the National Women’s History Project petitioned the designation of March as Women’s History Month in 1987, we have continued to honor and celebrate all the aspects of women’s identity that are intersectional, enriching, and sometimes complicating their lived experiences. This year, the National Women’s History Alliance’s theme is “Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories.”

Historically, women have led the charge to secure their right to vote, fight for equal opportunity, uphold civil rights, and join many other critical movements, whose goals have been to create a more fair and just society for all. Throughout these notable and pivotal moments in history, women storytellers in all forms of media have led the charge to boldly express the progress, pain, hope, and courage of women seeking change. Women storytellers represent a powerful, diverse group of people who use their various platforms to transform culture and communities.

Established in 1971, the Commission for Women (CFW) has been an active voice for women to combat domestic violence, and promote educational equality, and progress in the workplace. CFW recognizes and honors the unique contributions of the many women journalists, writers, authors, broadcasters, producers, scholars, and poets who have devoted

their lives, careers, and talents to producing art and news, pursuing truth, and reflecting on the progress and growth of society decade after decade. CFW also honors the women in communications in Fairfax County and is grateful for their work to keep the narrative of women at the forefront of discussion, in being an authentic and vulnerable voice telling women's stories, while devoting attention to improving female unity through storytelling.

Therefore, we move that the Office of Public Affairs prepare a proclamation to be presented to the Commission for Women in the Board room on March 7, 2023, to proclaim March 2023 as Women's History Month in Fairfax County to recognize and celebrate the vital role women play in Fairfax County's history and across our nation.

Commission for Women

Fairfax County

Women's History Month 2023 Proclamation

WHEREAS, Women's History Month is an opportunity to celebrate and honor women and girls of every age, ability, class, ethnic background, race, religion, and sexuality who lead and contribute to the growth and strength of Fairfax County and our nation; and

WHEREAS, all the aspects of women's identity are intersectional, enriching, and sometimes complicating their lived experiences; and

WHEREAS, historically women have led the charge in securing their right to vote and equal opportunity, the civil rights movement, and other movements, including the peace movement, which created a more fair and just society for all; and

WHEREAS, throughout these notable and pivotal moments in women's history, women storytellers in all forms of media including print, news, radio, TV, stage, screen, blogs, podcasts, and social media have led the charge in boldly expressing the progress, pain, hope, and courage of women seeking change. Women storytellers represent a powerful, diverse group of people who use their various platforms to transform culture and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Commission for Women recognizes and honors the unique contributions of the many women journalists, writers, authors, broadcasters, producers, scholars, and poets who have devoted their lives, careers, and talents to producing art and news, pursuing truth, and reflecting on the progress and growth of society decade after decade; and

WHEREAS, the Commission for Women also honors the women in communications in Fairfax County. The Commission for Women is grateful for their work to keep the narrative of women at the forefront of discussion, in being authentic and vulnerable in telling women's stories, and in their devotion to perfecting female unity through storytelling.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of all citizens of Fairfax County and its Commission for Women, hereby proclaim March 2023, as

Women's History Month

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT we honor all women and girls in Fairfax County for their tireless work to educate, provide healing, and promote hope for all through telling our stories.