

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, with over 8.4 million motorcycles registered in the United States, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Motorcycle Safety Foundation have named May as **Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month** to remind citizens that motorcyclists have the same rights and privileges as any motor vehicle, and that all road users should share the road with motorcyclists, and to be extra alert to help keep them safe; and

WHEREAS, during Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, motorcycle organizations across the country will be conducting a variety of activities to promote the importance of motorist awareness, safety and sharing the road with motorcyclists; and

WHEREAS, the **Gold Wing Road Riders Association** (GWRRA) is an international motorcycle riding organization, established in 1977, and has a membership of 75,000 with 34 chapters in the state of Florida; and

WHEREAS, established in 1995, the **Florida District of GWRRA** has a membership of 4,700, and the organization is highly involved in motorcycle safety through its Rider Education Program which includes courses in Road Captain, Experience Rider, Track and Trailering, First Aid and CPR, and Co-Rider Seminars; and

WHEREAS, the organization has also developed a "Motorist Awareness Program" in an effort to educate the public regarding the fact that over two-thirds of fatal motorcycle crashes involve the failure of the other vehicle to yield the right of way to the motorcycle, and how important it is for motorists to know that their actions affect the safety of motorcyclists, and using their motto of "**Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge**," the members of Gold Wing Road Riders Association promote friendship and safety among all motorcyclists; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, the local GWRRA Chapter FL1-A in Tampa, celebrating its 22nd Anniversary, will present the annual **Motorcycle Officer of the Year Award** to an officer honored from the Tampa Police Department and the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office at the Presentation Dinner on Saturday, May 13 2017 at the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge in Seffner, Florida; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to ensure the well-being of its citizens, the City of Tampa wishes to join the Gold Wing Road Riders Association in this public safety campaign.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim the month of May 2017 as

"MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to be more aware of motorcycles on our roads and highways, and for all motorcyclists to take advantage of motorcycle safety programs throughout the year.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 6th day of April, 2017.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor