WHEREAS, National Preparedness Month is a nationwide event held each September; and

WHEREAS, the goal of National Preparedness Month is to increase public awareness about the importance of preparing for emergencies and to encourage individuals to take action; and

WHEREAS, the City of Independence will not be truly prepared for a disaster and/or pandemic until every individual, family, and business takes personal responsibility for being prepared; and

WHEREAS, all residents of the City of Independence should take steps to prepare for emergencies, because residents must have the ability to care for themselves and their families for an extended period of time during an emergency, such as a disaster or pandemic and that this may mean providing for individuals and families by having an emergency supply kit, making a family emergency plan, being informed about different threats, and taking the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Basic Training course; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Independence should read and follow the City of Independence Citizen's Plan found on the City of Independence Emergency Preparedness Division (EPD) website and learn of the necessary preparedness actions and COVID-19 safety precautions and guidance; and

WHEREAS, the current COVID-19 Pandemic and other natural disasters throughout the United States are having a severe effect upon the United States and the City of Independence and consequently making the importance of preplanning and preparedness abundantly clear; and

WHEREAS, the City of Independence officially recognizes the many volunteers involved with the Medical Reserve Corps Greater Kansas City, the Community Emergency Response Team, the Disaster Animal Response Team, the Emergency Communications Service, Fire Explorers, Storm Spotters, Event Safety, Search and Rescue, Planning and Logistical sections, and the specialized Emergency Operations Center Command Staff volunteers who routinely offer their invaluable services to make our community safer.

THEREFORE, I, Eileen Weir, Mayor of the City of Independence, Missouri, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2021, as

## **National Preparedness Month**

and I call upon the people of the City Independence to join their fellow residents across the United States in recognizing and participating in this special observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Independence to be affixed this  $1^{\rm st}$  day of September 2021

## MAYOR

Attest:

## CITY CLERK