

# MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

CITY OF BROOKINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA

WHEREAS, Global Accessibility Awareness Day (GAAD) is commemorating its 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of educating about digital access and inclusion for the more than one billion people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, GAAD is led by the GAAD Foundation, which was founded on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Global Accessibility Awareness Day and whose mission is to disrupt the culture of technology and digital product development to include accessibility as a core requirement; and

WHEREAS, Workplaces welcoming of the talents of all people, including disabled people, are a critical part of our efforts to build an inclusive community and strong economy, yet more than 98.1% of corporate and organizations home pages have at least one Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 failure, thus making it difficult with those members of the disabled community from fully accessing information.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Oepke G. Niemeyer, Mayor of the City of Brookings, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as

## GLOBAL ACCESSIBILITY AWARENESS MONTH

And I call upon employers, schools and other community organizations in Brookings to observe this month with an appropriate review of their digital content, and to address issues identified in such reviews that prevent disabled people from accessing and using digital content provided by these institutions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have placed the Seal of the City of Brookings, State of South Dakota, this 7<sup>th</sup> day May, 2024.

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Oepke G. Niemeyer, Mayor