

## Proclamation

## To The People of Akron:

*Whereas:* Listening to each other and listening across differences for understanding is important in building respect and sustaining our sense of community; and

*Whereas:* Civil discourse is the free and respectful exchange of different ideas in a way that respects and affirm all persons, while hearing their perspectives; and

*Whereas:* Heated rhetoric and a dramatic shift away from collaboration leaves us unable to solve the challenges confronting our community; and

*Whereas:* Listening across differences for understanding and exercising civility assists in the process of working together, rebuilding trust and helps us to create lasting solutions to our most pressing challenges, while fostering respect among opposing groups; and

*Whereas:* Sharing our personal hopes, dreams, fears and definition of what being American means to us, can help us tell that story of what unites us over what divides us, and can reunite us around shared values during this time when our country needs it; and

*Whereas:* Recognizing the importance of listening to each other, exercising civility in our discourse, rebuilding trust and reconnecting around what unites us, are key elements of the Listen to America bus tour of the Huffington Post in partnership with the National Institute for Civil Discourse and the Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics.

*Now Therefore:* I, Daniel Horrigan, Mayor of the City of Akron, Ohio, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2017 as:

## "LISTEN TO AND REVIVE CIVILITY MONTH"

in the City of Akron, and ask all residents to practice civility by listening respectfully to people who have different views, avoiding language that is insulting or derogatory to others, and supporting efforts to work together across ideological and political lines.

*In Witness Whereof:* I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Akron to be affixed hereto this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017.

Mayor City of Akron