



Proclamation

WHEREAS, John Deere purchased the industrial area consisting of 590 acres including five large industrial buildings, a power plant, a sewage disposal plant and various smaller structures of the Des Moines Ordnance Plant located in Ankeny on October 1, 1947 from the Federal government who used the facility to manufacture small caliber ammunition during World War II; and

WHEREAS, over the years, various products have been produced at the Des Moines Works Plant including; 1960's cotton harvester/strippers/pickers and field cultivators, 1970's assumed the manufacture of sprayers, in 1986 tillage products transferred to Des Moines Works Plant and in 2009, the Nonstop Cotton Harvesting innovation-7760 Cotton Picker which dramatically enhanced operator productivity and profitability; and

WHEREAS, in September of 1959, Khrushchev toured the Des Moines Works Plant with interest in the basic manufacturing processes; and

WHEREAS, in 1961, a mile-long train of cotton-pickers, valued at \$7 million left the John Deere Des Moines Works plant, which established a record for the largest shipment of farm machinery ever made by rail anywhere in the world; and

WHEREAS, beginning in the 2000's, John Deere Des Moines Works plant was shipping to areas around the globe including China, Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, John Deere invested in a new assembly-only building, which features many advanced manufacturing technologies that support high quality, UAW - built machines to support the growing sprayer business; and

WHEREAS, John Deere has been supportive of the community through its investments, employment opportunities and its partnership with the City, school district and civic groups on various projects and financial contributions; and

WHEREAS, John Deere is celebrating its 70th year of business in Ankeny and the City of Ankeny wishes to recognize John Deere for their key role in keeping our economy strong.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Gary Lorenz, Mayor of the City of Ankeny, do hereby recognize and congratulate John Deere for their 70 years of commitment and success within our community.

DATED AND SIGNED THIS 2nd DAY OF October, 2017.

Gary Lorenz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pamela DeMouth, City Clerk