



# PROCLAMATION



## National Transit Employee Appreciation Day March 18, 2024

**WHEREAS**, National Transit Employee Appreciation Day was established in 2009 to recognize the efforts of transit workers across the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, public transit is a necessity for our community; and

**WHEREAS**, City of DeKalb Public Transit operates as a partnership between the City of DeKalb, the City of Sycamore, Town of Cortland and Northern Illinois University, providing 24 hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week transit service to help our communities and the university meet our transportation, sustainability, and equity goals; and

**WHEREAS**, transit employees work hard each day to help transit users access jobs, health care, school, community services, and many other personal, social, and civic opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, transit employees start their days before the sun rises and finish them long after the sun is set, including working weekends and on or around holidays, while many of us are spending time with family and friends; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to meeting stringent safety requirements, transit employees must demonstrate customer service, patience, empathy, and understanding to create a welcoming and inclusive environment for community members and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, communities across the United States observe National Transit Employee Appreciation Day each year on March 18 to recognize transit operators' dedication, hard work, and the essential services they provide;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Cohen Barnes, Mayor of the City of DeKalb, Illinois, do hereby encourage all citizens to recognize not only our local transit employees but those nationwide not only on March 18<sup>th</sup> but year round for their contributions.



**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of DeKalb to be affixed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024.

COHEN BARNES, Mayor