



**WHEREAS**, women of various backgrounds have been leaders in movements that include the fight for emancipation, women's suffrage, civil rights, and peace; and

**WHEREAS**, women have contributed to the arts, sciences, the military, medical fields, teaching, and politics, while in many cases maintaining the balance between womanhood and employment; and

**WHEREAS**, women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of life locally, nationally, and worldwide by constituting a significant portion of the labor force, and the **2026 theme for Women's History Month is "Women Shaping a Sustainable Future;"** and

**WHEREAS**, the list of women's contributions travel a timeline that includes, but is not limited to: Susan B. Anthony, for her prominent role in the Women's Suffrage Movement; Madam CJ Walker, first self-made woman millionaire entrepreneur; Shirley Chisholm, first Black woman elected to the US Congress; Sally Ride, first female NASA astronaut; Madeleine Albright, first Female US Secretary of State; Jen Welter, first female NFL Coach; Kamala Harris, first woman US Vice President; Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, First Woman Lieutenant Governor of Maryland; Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib, the first Muslim women elected to Congress; Greta Thunberg, the youngest person ever to be Time Magazine's Person of the Year; Deb Haaland, the first Native American woman to be elected to Congress and serve in a Presidential Cabinet; Rachel Levine, the highest-ranking openly transgender government official; Ketanji Brown Jackson, the first Black woman Supreme Court Justice; Haben Girma, first deafblind graduate of Harvard Law School; Amanda Gorman, first national youth poet laureate; Dr. Kizzmekia S. Corbet, American immunologist who assisted in developing the COVID-19 vaccine; Viola D. Hovsepian, the first woman Mayor of the City of Rockville; and Monique Ashton, the first BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) female mayor of the City of Rockville; and

**WHEREAS**, women impact the United States of America, the State of Maryland, and the City of Rockville by holding leadership roles in government, non-profit organizations, and private industry; and

**WHEREAS**, despite these contributions, the role of women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued in the fiber of American history; and

**WHEREAS**, women continue to work to break barriers and stereotypes that keep them from successfully rising to the top of organizations and achieving the highest pay scale.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Mayor and Council of the City of Rockville do hereby proclaim **March 2026** as **Women's History Month** and urge everyone to honor and celebrate the women in their lives.



  
Monique Ashton, Mayor

  
Kate Futrell, Councilmember

  
Izola (Zola) Shaw, Councilmember

  
Barry Jackson, Councilmember

  
Marissa Valeri, Councilmember

  
David Myles, Councilmember

  
Adam Van Grack, Councilmember

**March 2, 2026**