



**Proclamation recognizing October 9 - 15, 2022, as Fire Prevention Week  
"Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape!"**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Abingdon is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our community; and

**WHEREAS**, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

**WHEREAS**, home fires caused 2,580 civilian deaths in the United States in 2020, according to the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States responded to 356,500 home fires; and

**WHEREAS**, smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to danger in the event of a fire in which you may have as little as 2 minutes to escape safely; and

**WHEREAS**, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

**WHEREAS**, residents should be sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the smoke alarms and knows how to respond; and

**WHEREAS**, residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

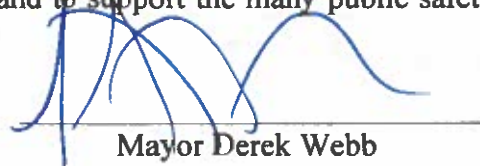
**WHEREAS**, residents will make sure their smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms meet the needs of all their family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Abingdon Fire Department personnel are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

**WHEREAS**, residents that are responsive to public education measures are better able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2022 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape.™," effectively reminds the residents that it is important to have a home fire escape plan.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I Derek Webb, Mayor of the Town of Abingdon, proclaim October 9-15, 2022, as Fire Prevention Week. I urge all the people of the Town of Abingdon to plan and practice a home fire escape for Fire Prevention Week 2022 and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of the Abingdon Fire Department.

  
Mayor Derek Webb