City of Birmingham
A Walkable Community

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945—six million were murdered; Roma (Gypsies), people with disabilities, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons; and millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and

WHEREAS, we the people of the City of Birmingham should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, we the people of the City of Birmingham should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society; and

WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of the City of Birmingham to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980), the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to be Sunday, May 1 through Sunday, May 8, 2011, including the Day of Remembrance known as Yom Hashoah, May 1, 2011;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, I, Gordon L. Rinschler, Mayor of the City of Birmingham, hereby recognizes Sunday, May 1 through Sunday, May 8, 2011, as Days of Remembrance in memory of the victims of the Holocaust and in honor of the survivors as well as the rescuers and liberators, and further proclaim that we, as citizens of the City of Birmingham, should work to promote human dignity and confront hate whenever and wherever it occurs.

IN WHITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Birmingham to be affixed this 4th day of April, 2011.

Gordon L. Rinschler, Mayor