

# Town of Westfield

Westfield, New Jersey

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2020, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy declared a State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, to protect the health, safety, and welfare of New Jersey residents, Governor Murphy has issued a series of Executive Orders aimed at reducing the rate of community spread of COVID-19, including Executive Order No. 107 that directed all brick-and-mortar premises of all non-essential retail businesses to close to the public. The order specifically deemed grocery and food stores as essential businesses and therefore not subject to closure; and

**WHEREAS**, the pandemic has presented grocery stores with many challenges – from increased demand to social distancing practices; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout the State of Emergency, Trader Joe's, a national chain of neighborhood grocery stores, at 155 Elm Street, Westfield, has remained open for business, thereby enabling the members of the community to secure the necessities of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Westfield recognizes that Trader Joe's could not operate without the hard-working people who staff the store day after day, seven days a week – the crew, the mates, the merchants and the captains; and

**WHEREAS**, the people who work for Trader Joe's usually work more than one job. Often, they are also students. They are moms and dads, sisters and brothers, daughters and sons, friends and neighbors. They interact with 500-600 customers per day and do so while conducting themselves in accordance with Trader Joe's core values – "Integrity, Product-driven company, Wow customer service, No bureaucracy, Kaizen (Japanese for "continuous self-improvement"), The store is the brand, and We're a national chain of neighborhood grocery stores"; and

**WHEREAS**, despite the challenges and their concerns for their own safety and that of their families, the employees of Trader Joe's have continued to serve the needs of the Westfield community with graciousness, a kind word, and a smile; and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting and proper to applaud the extraordinary efforts of Trader Joe's and their employees during this unprecedented time;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that I, Michelle W. Brindle, Mayor of the Town of Westfield, on behalf of a very grateful community, do hereby extend a heartfelt thank you to the employees of Trader Joe's for their dedication, patience, professionalism, and for delivering that WOW customer experience to all during this unprecedented State of Emergency. **BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that I extend very best wishes to the Crew, Mates, Merchants, and Captains for their health, safety and state of mind.



Michelle W. Brindle