

**WHEREAS**, across Virginia, hundreds of economic developers work with business leaders, local governments and community partners to bring investment, opportunity and business support; and

**WHEREAS**, more than half of people in the United States either own or work for a small business, and small businesses create nearly two out of every three new jobs each year; and

**WHEREAS**, the economic development profession cultivates thriving neighborhoods, champions sustainability and resiliency, boosts economic prosperity, enhances the quality of life and builds robust tax bases; and

**WHEREAS**, from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2025, Virginia celebrated over 500 company announcements, nearly 68,000 new jobs and more than \$103 billion in capital investment. For every dollar invested in economic development, the return to the state in tax revenue is an estimated \$8; and

**WHEREAS**, small business owners are the driving economic force behind what makes our Town strong and allow our community to flourish;

**WHEREAS**, economic development professionals serve as stewards, bridging connections between community stakeholders such as residents, business leaders, elected officials, industry executives and educational administrations, to collaborate in promoting job creation, community investment, infrastructure advancements and an optimistic future; and

**WHEREAS**, economic developers contribute to the betterment and progress of Virginia, proving that economic development efforts create stronger communities; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, I Linda J. Colbert, Mayor of the Town of Vienna, Virginia, on behalf of all citizens of the Town of Vienna recognize the week of May 3<sup>rd</sup> through May 9<sup>th</sup> as both

**2026 Small Business Week; and**  
**2026 Economic Development Week**

And encourage Town residents to shop local and celebrate the small businesses that make our community unique and a great place to live.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and the Seal of the Town of Vienna to be affixed hereto this 4<sup>h</sup> day of May, two thousand and twenty-six.

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Linda J. Colbert  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Shelley M. Kozlowski, CMC  
Town Clerk