

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, THE RED BANK SHADE TREE COMMITTEE (STC) WAS CREATED IN 2004 TO FOSTER AND PROMOTE ARBORICULTURE AND THE PRESERVATION AND PLANTING OF SHADE TREES WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK; AND

WHEREAS, THE STC'S HARD WORK HAS EARNED RED BANK THE TREE CITY USA DESIGNATION FOR 15 STRAIGHT YEARS WHICH IS A STATUS ACHIEVED BY MEETING FOUR CORE STANDARDS OF SOUND URBAN FORESTRY MANAGEMENT: MAINTAINING A TREE BOARD OR DEPARTMENT, HAVING A COMMUNITY TREE ORDINANCE, SPENDING AT LEAST \$2 PER CAPITA ON URBAN FORESTRY AND CELEBRATING ARBOR DAY; AND

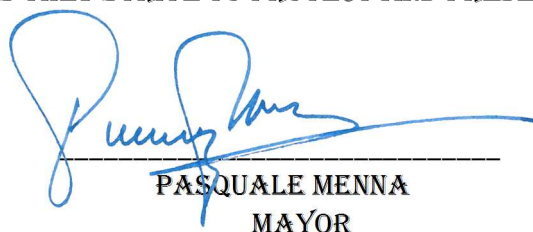
WHEREAS, SINCE STC'S CREATION OVER 500 TREES HAVE BEEN PLANTED ALL OVER RED BANK TRANSFORMING THE CHARACTER OF MANY NEIGHBORHOODS WITH MOST OF THE TREES PLANTED THROUGH GOVERNMENT GRANTS WHICH THE COMMITTEE HELPED SECURE; AND

WHEREAS, THE COMMITTEE MAINTAINS A COMMUNITY FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN THAT IS APPROVED BY THE STATE AND UPDATED EVERY FIVE YEARS WHICH IS ONE OF THE REQUIREMENTS BY THE STATE TO QUALIFY FOR TREE RELATED GRANTS; MAINTAINS AN ONLINE TREE INVENTORY WHICH IS USED IN THE MAINTENANCE AND EXPANSION OF THE BOROUGH'S TREE CANOPY; MAINTAINS A LIST OF TREE SPECIES THAT DEVELOPERS CAN USE TO DECIDE APPROPRIATE TREES FOR THEIR PROJECTS AND ASSISTS WITH THE BOROUGH'S PARTICIPATION IN THE SUSTAINABLE JERSEY PROGRAM; AND

WHEREAS, THE STC MEMBERS ARE DEDICATED, COMMITTED AND HARDWORKING AND TAKE TIME OUT FROM THEIR BUSY SCHEDULES TO PERFORM A PHYSICAL INVENTORY OF THE PUBLIC TREES IN THE BOROUGH AND HAVE DIVIDED THE BOROUGH INTO FIVE ZONES WITH ONE ZONE INVENTORIED A YEAR SO THAT EACH TREE IS VISITED EVERY FIVE YEARS AND THEY MEASURE THE TREES AND NOTE EACH TREE'S CONDITION.

WHEREAS, TO CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY, THE MAYOR SIGNS THE ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION AND THE STC HOLDS A CELEBRATION, WHICH HAS INCLUDED PLANTING TREES, PRESENTATIONS BY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND ELECTED OFFICIALS, GIVING AWAY SEEDLINGS AND PROVIDING TREE-RELATED INFORMATION TO RESIDENTS AT A PUBLIC EVENT.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, I, PASQUALE MENNA, MAYOR OF THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK, DO HEREBY RECOGNIZE THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE RED BANK SHADE TREE COMMITTEE AND ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL AND CITIZENS ON RED BANK EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE FOR THE VERY IMPORTANT WORK THEY DO AND I URGE THE RESIDENTS OF RED BANK TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE AS THEY STRIVE TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE TREE INVENTORY OF THE BOROUGH.



PASQUALE MENNA
MAYOR