WHEREAS, on Arbor Day, we celebrate trees and honor their essential role in the ecology of our planet; as the Arbor Day Foundation states, “Trees provide the very necessities of life itself – they clean our air, protect our drinking water, create healthy communities, and feed the human soul;” and

WHEREAS, the history of this day dates back to 1872, when J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for planting trees; on April 10, 1872, the date of the first Arbor Day, approximately one million trees were planted in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the United States and by nations around the world; and

WHEREAS, Carrboro has been long been recognized as a Tree City USA by The National Arbor Day Foundation; and

WHEREAS, trees in our town increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, trees can help to mitigate the Earth’s rise in atmospheric carbon by removing carbon from the atmosphere in a process called carbon sequestration, and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of topsoil, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, and produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and trees are also a renewable resource giving us paper, wood, and countless other products; and

WHEREAS, in the spirit of Arbor Day, the Town of Carrboro Public Works Department will join together to plant a tree in order to celebrate the day.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim Friday, April 30th as “ARBOR DAY” in the Town of Carrboro, and urge all residents to help protect our trees and forests and to support our town’s urban forestry program. Further, I encourage all residents to plant trees to promote the well-being of present and future generations.

This, the 27th day of April 2021.

Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor