



Proclamation
of the Livingston City Commission
**Recognizing National Human
Trafficking Prevention month in Livingston.**

WHEREAS, the Montana Department of Justice assisted and identified 68 cases of human trafficking in 2021, an increase of 871 percent from 2015; and

WHEREAS According to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, “Human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act.” A commercial sex act is the giving or receiving of anything of value (money, drugs, shelter, food, clothes, rent payment, etc.) to a person in exchange for a sex act; and

WHEREAS, as of 2021, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received more than 17,000 reports of possible child sex trafficking, and estimates one out of six endangered runaways are likely child sex trafficking victims; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, the U.S. Department of Labor identified 158 goods from 77 countries made by forced and child labor; and

WHEREAS, we as a community strive to provide resources to empower self- sufficiency, restore dignity, and support recovery from trauma for survivors; and

WHEREAS, the city of Livingston encourages residents to educate themselves, learn the warning signs, know the potential indicators or trafficking, and report suspected predators by calling or texting 1-833-406-STOP (1-833-406-7867) OR reach and advocate via live chat at [406stop.com](https://www.406stop.com); and be part of the solution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on behalf of the City Commission, I, Melissa Nootz, chair, do hereby proclaim, January 2023 to be:

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH

We support the advocacy efforts the Montana Department of Justice and the Human Trafficking Taskforce in Livingston, and encourage our residents to know the signs, be part of the solution and report any suspected human trafficking to law enforcement.

Signed this 3rd day of January, 2023.



Melissa Nootz, Chair
Livingston City Commission





Faith Kinnick,
Recording Secretary