



WHEREAS, the *American Revolution* (1765-1783) was a political conflict that involved the settlers of the **Thirteen Original Colonies** and Great Britain; and

WHEREAS, conflict began as **Great Britain** demanded loyalty from and sovereignty over the New Lands of America, its subjects, and continued taxation over its resources; and

WHEREAS, the people rebelled against the tyranny of **King George, III**, and **Britain**, and various taxes imposed on the **Thirteen Original Colonies**; and

WHEREAS, the Lee Resolution, also known as "*The Resolution for Independence*," was the formal assertion passed by the **Second Continental Congress** on **July 2, 1776**, holding that the Thirteen Colonies are "**free and independent States**" and separate from the British Empire; and

WHEREAS, the **Declaration of Independence**, formally **The Unanimous Declaration of the Thirteen United States of America**, the founding document of the United States, was unanimously adopted by the **Second Continental Congress** at the Pennsylvania State House on **July 4, 1776**; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that the **Thirteen Original Colonies** were built upon lands originally inhabited by *Indigenous Peoples* such as the **Shawnee, Seneca, Iroquois, Algonquian, Leni, Lenape, Mohegan, Pequot, Piscataway, Anacostank, Pamunkey, Mattapanient, Nangemeick, and Tauxehent**, and many others; and

WHEREAS, the **250th Anniversary** of the **United States** invites reflection on a national story marked by profound achievement and profound complexity—moments of courage, innovation, and aspiration alongside histories of injustice and at time exclusion, that shape communities across the country, including Rockville; and

WHEREAS, this milestone offers an opportunity for the City of Rockville to honor the resilience and contributions of all peoples who have built and enriched the nation while reaffirming our shared hope for a future rooted in justice, belonging, and civic possibility—where every resident is able to thrive and participate fully in the community we create together.

NOW THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of the City of Rockville, Maryland, do hereby proclaim **July 4, 2026**, as the **250th Anniversary of America** in Rockville, Maryland, honoring the full, complex nature of our nation's history and affirming Rockville's ongoing commitment to building a strong future for all who call this community home.




Marissa Valeri, Mayor


Kate Fulsom, Councilmember


Izola (Zola) Shaw, Councilmember


Barry Jackson, Councilmember


Marissa Valeri, Councilmember


David Myles, Councilmember


Adam Van Grack, Councilmember

January 5, 2026