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4/7/14 Proclamation for 2014 Veg Week

**PROCLAMATION**  
*Ann Arbor Veg Week*  
*April 21-27<sup>th</sup>, 2014*

*WHEREAS, the City of Ann Arbor is dedicated to the preservation of the environment and natural resources; and*

*WHEREAS, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization recognized in 2006 that livestock agriculture is "one of the most significant contributors to today's most serious environmental problems;" and*

*WHEREAS, recent studies and reports have demonstrated that we can now lower our carbon footprint on the planet by simply cutting down on the animal products that we eat; and*

*WHEREAS, the American Dietetic Association recognizes that a plant based diet decreases our risk of various ailments, including heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity and various cancers; and*

*WHEREAS, nearly 10 billion birds, pigs, and cows are slaughtered for food each year in the U.S., most of whom live on massive factory farms that cause tremendous animal suffering as well as environmental destruction; and*

*WHEREAS, Farmer's markets that have been established throughout Ann Arbor and elsewhere provide healthy, locally grown organic fruits & vegetables for those who seek healthy food choices; and*

*WHEREAS, several of Ann Arbor businesses are participating in and support Ann Arbor Veg Week including Nicola's Books, The Lunch Room, Ann Arbor District Library, Humane Society of Huron Valley, Main Street Area Association, A2 Fitness Professionals, and Current Publications, in addition to 20 plus restaurants that will be offering vegan special menu items throughout the week.*

*NOW THEREFORE, I, John Hieftje, Mayor of Ann Arbor do hereby proclaim April 21-27, 2014, as Ann Arbor Veg Week, and encourage residents to participate in choosing plant-based foods as a way to protect their health, the planet and animals.*

I hereby set my hand and seal  
This 21st day of April, 2014

*John Hieftje, Mayor*