Declaration of the Boulder Day of Remembrance

March 22, 2021

March 22, 2021, is a date that will be forever seared in the collective memory of our community. On that Monday afternoon, a grievous atrocity was committed that will mark each of us for the rest of our lives. But, none more so than the families and friends of the ten people taken from us suddenly and violently, people going about their daily lives, doing their jobs, feeding their families, protecting one another. Our entire community joins those families and friends in saying the names of our neighbors, taken from us before their time:

Denny Stong
Neven Stanisic
Rikki Olds
Tralona Bartkowiak
Suzanne Fountain
Teri Leiker
Kevin Mahoney
Lynn Murray
Jody Waters
Officer Eric Talley

It has been said that there are three deaths: The first is when the body ceases to function. The second is when the body is returned to the earth. And, the third is that moment, sometime in the future, when the person's name is spoken for the very last time. Let us never allow this third death of our ten fallen neighbors. Let us take the time to speak their names, celebrate their lives, mourn their passing. As long as we remember them, they will never truly die.

And, so, as our modest and humble gesture, the City Council of the City of Boulder declares that every year, in perpetuity, March 22 shall be designated the Boulder Day of Remembrance. On that day, every year, our community will pause and remember the ten people who departed. On that day, every year, we will celebrate their lives. On that day, every year, we will say their names out loud so that, in our hearts, they will live on. Sam Weaver, Mayor