

**PROCLAMATION
SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 26, 2016**

WHEREAS, according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 28.8 million small businesses in the United States representing 99.7 percent of all businesses with employees in the United States; and they are responsible for 63 percent of net new jobs created over the past 20 years; and

WHEREAS, 89 percent of consumers in the United States agree that small businesses contribute positively to the local community by supplying jobs and generating tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, 87 percent of consumers in the United States agree that small businesses are critical to the overall economic health of the United States; and

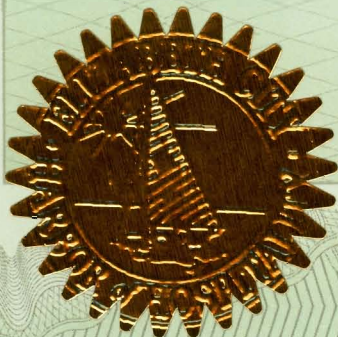
WHEREAS, 93 percent of consumers in the United States agree that it is important for people to support the small businesses that they value in their community; and

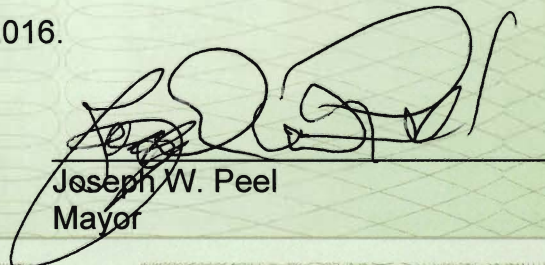
WHEREAS, the Elizabeth City Council supports our local small businesses in their efforts to create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, advocacy groups as well as public and private organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joseph W. Peel, Mayor of Elizabeth City, NC do hereby proclaim, November 26, 2016, as **SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**; and urge all residents of our community to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday as well as throughout the year and celebrate the contributions they make to our local economy and community.

THIS 14th day of November 2016.





Joseph W. Peel
Mayor