



*City of Alachua, Florida*  
*Office of Mayor Gib Coerper*

*PROCLAMATION*

*WHEREAS*, James Madison, the father of our federal Constitution, wrote that “consent of the governed” requires that the people be able to “arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives,” and

*WHEREAS*, every citizen in our participatory democracy has an inherent right to access to government meetings and public records; and

*WHEREAS*, an open and accessible government is vital to establishing and maintaining the people’s trust and confidence in their government and in the government’s ability to effectively serve its citizens; and

*WHEREAS*, the protection of every person’s right of access to public records and government meetings is a high priority of the City of Alachua, and

*WHEREAS*, the City of Alachua is committed to openness and transparency in all aspects of its operations and seeks to set a standard in this regard; and

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Gib Coerper, Mayor of the City of Alachua, representing the City and the City Commission, do hereby proclaim **March 15 -21, 2015** as

*Sunshine Week*

and do commit during this Sunshine Week to commemorating the anniversary of James Madison’s birth, and throughout the year to work diligently to enhance the public’s access to government records and information, to increase information provided electronically and online, and to ensure that all meetings of deliberative bodies under our jurisdiction, and their committees, are fully noticed and open to the public.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of March, 2015

ATTEST:

---

Gib Coerper, Mayor