

BY: Senator GRIFFO

COMMEMORATING the 30th Anniversary of Steet Toyota
of Yorkville, New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the achievements of those individuals and businesses which substantially contribute to the economic vitality of their communities and the entire Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of Steet Toyota of Yorkville, New York, celebrated on Thursday, February 13, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Steet Toyota of Yorkville is a family-owned Toyota dealership situated in the heart of Central New York; and

WHEREAS, The Steet family has been involved in the automotive industry since 1945 and is now in its third generation of ownership and operation, with both the Steet and Ponte families continuing the legacy; the locally operated auto group serves the Central New York region, including Oneida, Herkimer, and Fulton Counties; and

WHEREAS, With over 65 years in business, the Steet Auto Group began with United Auto Sales in Utica, now located at 4994 Commercial Drive in Yorkville; established in 1945 by brothers Joseph G. and Thomas Steet, United Auto is now led by Joseph A. and Joseph T. Steet, a father-son team, continuing the family's legacy of dedication and strong work ethic; and

WHEREAS, For more than 20 years, Joseph A. Steet envisioned owning the Toyota dealership across the street from United Auto; on February 7, 1995, he partnered with Steven M. Ponte to purchase the Toyota dealership at 4991 Commercial Drive, which eventually became Steet Toyota Scion of Yorkville, marking the beginning of the Steet Auto Group's expansion; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, the dealership has grown from employing 13 people to its current 55 workers - including two employees who have been with the dealership since 1995; and

WHEREAS, Steven M. Ponte, a Herkimer, New York resident, recognized an opportunity at a local Chevy dealership, which they acquired, now known as Steet-Ponte Chevy at 3036 State Route 28; by 2003, they expanded further with Steet-Ponte Ford Lincoln, renovating the building at 5074 Commercial Drive; in 2007, Toyota invited them to open a dealership in Johnstown, New York, helping the local economy and providing jobs, which led to the opening of Steet Toyota Scion of Johnstown Gloversville; and

WHEREAS, In 2011, Steet and Ponte added Volkswagen and Mazda brands

to their portfolio; the Steet-Ponte Volkswagen dealership was built in 2013 at 5046 Commercial Drive in Yorkville, and their existing locations-Steet Toyota Scion of Yorkville, United Auto Sales, and Steet-Ponte Chevy-were all renovated into state-of-the-art facilities; Steet Ponte Mazda moved to its own location in late 2020, and Steet Ponte Nissan was acquired in late 2021; and

WHEREAS, Customer satisfaction is the top priority at Steet Toyota of Yorkville, and they work hard to ensure that each sales experience is smooth and enjoyable; their commitment extends beyond the sale, aiming to provide exceptional service long after customers have driven off the lot; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable milestone is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and exceptional service that has earned the trust and loyalty of customers throughout Central New York; over the past three decades, Steet Toyota has continued to grow, evolve, and set the standard for excellence in the automotive industry; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of Steet Toyota of Yorkville, and to wish them many more years of success, providing top-quality vehicles and outstanding service to the community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Steet Toyota of Yorkville, New York.