



PROCLAMATION

CELEBRATION OF LATINO HERITAGE

WHEREAS, during Latino Heritage Month, we honor and celebrate the immeasurable contributions and unique stories of Latinos, California's largest ethnic group; and

WHEREAS, Californians know that our strength and prosperity lie in our state's diversity, including the 15.6 million Latino Californians with roots that can be traced across the Americas, Indigenous communities of Latin America and Africa, and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the City of Imperial Beach encourages and promotes strong and inclusive communities that recognize and celebrate efforts to bring people together for a greater good; and

WHEREAS, the City of Imperial Beach commemorates the strong and visible roots of the Latino community, and the decades of hope and sacrifice in the national, regional and local landscape of our nation; and

WHEREAS, based on 2023 statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau, 52.8% of the Imperial Beach Population has Hispanic or Latino origins and there are families in Imperial Beach who have been in the city since its inception more than 69 years; and

WHEREAS, our Latino community has always been and will always be deeply rooted in our City's history, identity and success. Latinos from the beginning of our community to the present day, shaped our social, political, and economic landscapes. Across all facets of society, Latinos contribute to our City's vibrancy and growth every day; and

WHEREAS, we also recognize the persistent disparities and disproportionate challenges that Latino communities face, and recommit to our work to help all thrive; and

WHEREAS, the City of Imperial Beach is proud of the Mexican heritage that includes indigenous people, and those called Mexican-American, Chicano, Latino, Spanish, Tejano, Latin-x and, Hispanic; and

WHEREAS, in the words of Cesar Chavez "Preservation of one's own culture does not require contempt or disrespect for other cultures," and therefore we celebrate the contributions of the robust Latino Heritage to include: Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, French Guiana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, Spain, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela; and

WHEREAS, September 15th is National Independence Day in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica, and Mexico celebrates its Independence Day on September 16th, Chile on September 18th and Belize on September 21st; and

WHEREAS, throughout the year, but especially during Latino Heritage Month, let us uplift the past, present, and future contributions of Latinos to our rich City's diversity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Paloma Aguirre, Mayor of the City of Imperial Beach, California, together with the City Council, proclaim that on this day, September 6, 2023, we recognize and celebrate Latino Heritage Month from September 1st through September 30th.

Dated: September 18, 2024

Paloma Aguirre, Mayor