

WHEREAS, San Diegans have experienced the effects of disasters including devastating wildland fires, severe flooding, and extreme summer heat, at times resulting in loss of life and damages; and

WHEREAS, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters requires a strong network of community partners across San Diego jurisdictions, and that includes an important partnership with residents and businesses to ensure they are safe and prepared for emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach recognizes the crucial role that staff and volunteer emergency management professionals, first responders, county, cities, special districts, tribes, nonprofit and military partners contribute to helping reduce our risks and impacts of emergencies; and

WHEREAS, September is National Preparedness Month, and together, we must all commit to preparing our families and communities for disasters, to ensure we are safer and more resilient; therefore, the City of Imperial Beach encourages all residents to be disaster prepared; and

WHEREAS, Preparedness Month serves as a reminder to ask "How prepared are you and your neighbors?" and therefore we remind residents to download the free cell phone app, SD Emergency, the San Diego go-to source for countywide emergency notifications and to also opt in with email addresses and cell phone numbers to AlertSanDiego-both are available at www.AlertSD.org; and

WHEREAS, Preparedness is an effort that requires all of us – government, businesses, nonprofit agencies, partners, residents, and families to work together to help build better prepared communities; and

WHEREAS, 2024 is the 21st anniversary of the devastating Cedar Fire – and since that wildfire, San Diegans have experienced annual wildfire impacts that have heightened our need for emergency preparedness; and

WHEREAS, 2024 National Preparedness Month Theme is "Start a Conversation" Talking about bad things that could happen like a disaster or emergency isn't always easy. We may think we're protecting the people we love by avoiding these conversations. Starting a conversation today can help you and your family to take more actions to prepare.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that I Paloma Aguirre, Mayor of the City of Imperial Beach, together with the City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2024 as "NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH," in honor of those who work so hard to help prepare our homes, businesses and communities for disasters.

Dated: September 18, 2024