PROCLAMATION

Hmong American Day ~ May 14, 2023

- **WHEREAS,** May 14, 2023, marks the anniversary of the fall of Long Cheng, a United States-Hmong airbase in Laos during the Laotian Civil War, where the Hmong allied with the United States, and fought together in Laos against the North Vietnamese, also known as the Secret War from 1961-1975; and
- **WHEREAS**, approximately 30,000-40,000 Hmong soldiers were killed during the Secret War, that included many Hmong soldiers who were under 18 years of age. The United States helped Hmong refugees flee to Thailand on May 14, 1975; and
- **WHEREAS**, like many immigrant groups before them, Hmong refugees resettled to the United States to escape war and persecution, to find opportunities and to better their lives and the lives of their children; and
- whereas, the Hmong Youth & Parents United (HYPU) is a non-profit providing educational, social, and economic opportunities for under-served communities such as the Hmong Community and has extended its services to encompass a healthy living program to address the needs of community members such as the senior population; and
- **WHEREAS**, since its beginning, HYPU has worked and continues to work in establishing and facilitating programs in the areas of English and Hmong language acquisition and proficiency, literacy, parent accountability and involvement, self-discovery, and development; and
- WHEREAS, HYPU is committed to assisting underserved communities in attaining the highest practicable quality of life with programs focused on culture and language preservation, education, youth empowerment, health, and mental well-being.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove hereby affirms and proclaims May 14 as Hmong American Day in the City of Elk Grove, and we thank the Hmong Youth & Parents United for their commitment to the Elk Grove community.

SIGNED this 10th day of May, 2023.

Bobbie Singh-Allen, Mayor

KEVIN SPEASE, VICE MAYOR

SERGIO ROBLES, COUNCIL MEMBER

ROD BREWER, COUNCIL MEMBER

DARREN SUEN, COUNCIL MEMBER

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- **WHEREAS**, approximately 30,000-40,000 Hmong soldiers were killed during the Secret War, that included many Hmong soldiers who were under 18 years of age; and
- **WHEREAS**, May 14, Hmong American Day, is a time to remember and honor Hmong people's history, stories, and contributions to the Vietnam War. May 14, 1975, was the last airlift evacuation of Hmong soldiers and families from Laos to a refugee camp in Thailand; and
- **WHEREAS**, many Hmong refugees and their families immigrated to the United States, and today over 40,000 of the more than 325,000 Hmong Americans are residents of Sacramento County; and
- WHEREAS, like many immigrant groups before them, Hmong refugees resettled to the United States to escape war and persecution, to find opportunities and to better their lives and the lives of their children; and
- **WHEREAS**, Hmong Americans have become America's success stories from having nothing to becoming teachers, engineers, nurses, doctors, lawyers, professional athletes, police officers, soldiers, elected officials and more.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove hereby affirms and proclaims May 14 as Hmong American Day in the City of Elk Grove and acknowledges the social, political, and economic contributions of Hmong Americans to support a vibrant and diverse California and urges all residents to join in the celebration of culture and accomplishments of the Hmong American community.

SIGNED this 10th day of May, 2023.

BOBBIE SINGH-ALLEN, MAYOR

KEVIN SPEASE, VICE MAYOR

SERGIO ROBLES, COUNCIL MEMBER

ROD BREWER, COUNCIL MEMBER

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