PROCLAMATION

Juneteenth ~ June 19, 2023

- **WHEREAS**, on September 22, 1862, the Emancipation Proclamation and Executive Order were issued by President Abraham Lincoln declaring the owning of slaves to be illegal effective January 1, 1863; and
- **WHEREAS**, almost two and a half years later on June 19, 1865, Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, bringing news of the Proclamation and Executive Order that slaves should be freed; and
- **WHEREAS**, Juneteenth commemorates the liberation of African Americans attained by the African American community's perseverance and innovation despite the perils faced, coupled with the Proclamation and Executive Order outlawing slavery; and
- WHEREAS, almost 156 years later, on June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed legislation to make Juneteenth a federal holiday enshrining June 19 as the national day to commemorate the end of slavery in the United States, stating that signing the law was one of the greatest honors he will have as President; and
- WHEREAS, Rashid F. Sidqe, Founder/Chief Executive Officer of Lift Up Love Always Inc. (LULA), is a community leader and advocate, whose drive is fueled by the mission of equality and commitment to bring fairness and justice for all; and
- **WHEREAS,** Rashid F. Sidqe and LULA provide innovative pathways of opportunities for communities overlooked and underserved in the areas of alternative energy, restorative justice, and community education making our communities a safe place to live, work, and raise a family including promoting the annual Elk Grove/Laguna Juneteenth event at District 56.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove hereby affirms and proclaims June 19 as Juneteenth in the City of Elk Grove and recognizes Rashid Sidqe and the Lift Up Love Always Inc. (LULA) for their commitment to fairness and justice and encourages all residents to foster a community that continues to advance the movement toward equality and justice for African American people.

SIGNED this 14th day of June, 2023.

BOBBIE SINGH-ALLEN, MAYOR

KEVIN SPEASE, VÍCE MAYOR

ROD BREWER, COUNCIL MEMBER

SERGIO ROBLES, COUNCIL MEMBER

DARREN SUEN, COUNCIL MEMBER