## PROCLAMATION Diwali The Festival of Lights 2023

- **WHEREAS,** Diwali, the "Festival of Lights", is one of the most celebrated festivals of Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains and it is celebrated by more than one billion people throughout the world; and
- **WHEREAS**, Diwali is symbolic of the victory of light over darkness, good over evil, compassion over despair, and knowledge over ignorance; and
- **WHEREAS**, Diwali celebrants light "diyas," small oil lamps, and place them around the home, and pray for health, knowledge and peace; and
- WHEREAS, celebrants of Diwali believe that rows of lamps symbolize the light within the individual that rids the soul of darkness and ignorance; and love wins out hatred; and
- **WHEREAS**, Diwali is a reminder we must commit to lift each other up together to a brighter future.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove on behalf of those who are celebrating this important festival do hereby recognize the religious and historical significance of Diwali, and Diwali's message of tolerance, love, compassion, and the victory of good over evil.

**SIGNED** this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023.

BOBBIE SINGH-ALLEN, MAYOR

KEVIN SPEASE, VÍCE MAYOR

SERGIO DODI EG COUNCII MEMBER

ROD BREWER, COUNCIL MEMBER

DARREN SUEN, COUNCIL MEMBER