## PROCLAMATION

## Native American Heritage Month ~ November 2023

- **WHEREAS.** Native American Heritage Month celebrates and recognizes the accomplishments of the peoples who were the original inhabitants, explorers, and settlers of the United States; and
- whereas, since time immemorial, the indigenous peoples of this continent flourished with vibrant cultures and were the original stewards of the land. From generation to generation, invaluable cultural knowledge and rich traditions were handed down, which continue to thrive in the many and diverse Native American communities across our country and borders to the north and south of us today; and
- as the first to live on this land, Miwok and Nisenan peoples and their traditions and values continue to inspire the ideals of self-governance and determination that are the framework of our community; and
- WHEREAS, Wilton Rancheria is the only federally recognized tribe in Sacramento County. After decades of hardship and struggle, losing and then regaining their federal recognition in 2009, having land put into a federal trust for the Tribe by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Wilton Rancheria and their Tribal members show strong resolve and perseverance; and
- where the guidance of Chairman Jesus Tarango, Wilton Rancheria has become a beacon for the continued fight to exercise their sovereignty as a tribal nation. Their legislative advocacy at the state level has advanced bills such as AB1314, the creation of the Feather Alert system in 2022, to combat the Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) epidemic, and AB338, adopted in 2021, that removed the Father Junipero Serra statue at the State Capitol and replaced it with a statue of Miwok and Nisenan Dance Captain William "Bill" Franklin, the first California Native American on State Capitol grounds.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove hereby proclaims November 2023 as Native American Heritage Month in the City of Elk Grove and urges all residents to take the time to gain a deeper understanding of the diverse heritage of Native Americans, strengthen the preservation of Native American history, art, language, literature, anthropology, and culture, and renew awareness and appreciation working as partners with Native Americans to build sustainable and healthy communities.

**SIGNED** this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023.

BOBBIE SINGH-ALLEN, MAYOR

KEVIN SPEASE, VICE MAYOR

SERGIO ROBLES, COUNCIL MEMBER

ROD BREWER, COUNCIL MEMBER

DARREN SUEN, COUNCIL MEMBER