## PROCLAMATION Hispanic Heritage Month September 15, 2021, to October 15, 2021

WHEREAS. Hispanic Heritage Month is an official celebration of Hispanic Americans whose ancestry can be traced back to Spain, Mexico, Central and South America and the Caribbean, a recognition that started as a week-long celebration in 1968, and twenty years later, expanded to dedicate a month recognizing the generations of Hispanic Americans who have positively influenced and enriched our society; and

WHEREAS, the objectives of Hispanic Heritage Month are to create a greater awareness of Hispanic contributions to American culture, by celebrating the histories, cultures, and customs to illustrate the diversity of the Hispanic community, and to encourage a greater curiosity within generations about the rich history and cultural heritage of Hispanics; and

**WHEREAS.** the City of Elk Grove is honored to recognize Chief Felipe Rodriguez as the Cosumnes Community Services District's first Hispanic Fire Chief, who was sworn in as Fire Chief on December 2, 2020 leading a 205-member staff that proudly serves the Elk Grove and Galt communities in a 157-square mile area; and

WHEREAS, Chief Rodriguez earned his bachelor's degree in occupational studies and his master's degree in emergency services administration at California State University, Long Beach, has served in a variety of roles in the fire service throughout his career, including, Firefighter-Paramedic, Fire Captain, Battalion Chief, Fire Marshal, Training Chief, and Fire Chief, and has served our country as a United States Navy Hospital Corpsman in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove hereby affirms and proclaims September 15, 2021, through October 15, 2021, as Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of Elk Grove and encourages the community to celebrate a collective progress shared with the Hispanic Community, learn by seeing the strength that derives from our diversity, and honor a shared spirit of self-determination, dignity, and respect for cultural heritage.

**SIGNED** this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2021.

BOBBIE SINGH-ALLEN, MAYOR

STEPHANIE NGUYEN, VICE MAYOR

PATRICK HUME, COUNCIL MEMBER

KEVIN SPEASE, COUNCIL MEMBER

DARREN SUEN, COUNCIL MEMBER