

Proclamation

Whereas, Hispanic or Latino Americans are California's largest ethnic minority, comprising thirty-nine percent of the State's population, or more than 15 million residents; and

Whereas, during National Hispanic Heritage Month, we celebrate and honor the invaluable contributions that Latino and Hispanic people and culture have made to our State and our community, and to our common goals as we work toward a more inclusive, equitable society; and

Whereas, for the past 19 months, the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately impacted the health and economic stability of Latino/Hispanic communities, including high case rates, hospitalizations and deaths; and

Whereas, Latinos and Hispanics represent an overwhelming number of front line workers who must work in person and in close contact with others, increasing their risk of exposure to this deadly virus. Latinos are also overrepresented in industries hit hardest by the pandemic, resulting in widespread loss of employment; their children have also experienced diminished educational opportunities as a result of the pandemic; and

Whereas, as we continue to fight the pandemic, we must also work to achieve a brighter, more equitable future. We honor the resilience of Latino and Hispanic communities who have persisted through centuries of discrimination to lead movements for justice and equality. The renowned labor leader and civil rights activist César Chávez said, "History will judge societies and governments – and their institutions – not just by how big they are or how well they serve the rich and powerful, but by how effectively they respond to the needs of the poor and helpless;" and

Whereas, during National Hispanic Heritage Month, we reaffirm the City of Alameda's commitment to the values of dignity, inclusivity, and respect for all, regardless of ethnic or national origin, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or immigration status.

Now, therefore be it resolved, that I, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Mayor of the City of Alameda, hereby proclaim September 15 through October 15, 2021 to be

National Hispanic Heritage Month

in the City of Alameda and call on all residents to join me in recognizing the lasting, and continuing contributions of persons of Hispanic and Latino origin.



Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft
Mayor

