



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Hispanic/Latinx/e Heritage Month celebrates the diversity of the Fort Collins community, has been a national observance and celebration since 1988 when it was approved by the 100th Congress, and September 15-October 15 has been designated for observance of Hispanic/Latinx/e Heritage Month Celebration; and

WHEREAS, as the largest ethnic and cultural group in Fort Collins at nearly 20 percent of the population, the Hispanic/Latinx/e community—which reflects all genders, races, ethnicities, socioeconomic statuses, nationalities, ages, sexual orientations, religions and abilities—has historically faced cultural and systemic barriers to inclusion and equitable treatment in the City; and

WHEREAS, despite such discrimination, Fort Collins is proud to be home to many people of Hispanic/Latinx/e descent who play an important role in our strength and prosperity by making the community vibrant, strong, and productive, and whose tenacity, energy and leadership are woven into the culture of Fort Collins; and

WHEREAS, it is the role of City leaders, City institutions, and community members to commit to the removal of cultural and systemic barriers, to combat discrimination, promote tolerance and social justice, and to advance the cause of equity and inclusion for all in our community, including community members of Hispanic/Latinx/e descent; and

WHEREAS, the City celebrates Hispanic/Latinx/e community leaders, organizations, and businesses and their invaluable contributions to Fort Collins; thanks and expresses gratitude to Hispanic/Latinx/e leaders and contributors in education, the arts, sciences, medical fields, military, government, business, management, non-profits, social justice organizations, and more, and as a City we will continue to support such organizations, businesses, and individuals and recognize their important contributions to our community and city; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Collins City Council and staff commit to making Fort Collins a welcoming community for all people living here; to expanding opportunities in business, education, the arts, sciences, government and leadership; to removing barriers to inequity, addressing hate and bias, and promoting equity and justice for Hispanic/Latinx/e community members. We recognize there is more work ahead of us and commit to the fundamental community values of equity and inclusion in Fort Collins, ensuring that all residents feel respected, valued, and affirmed.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeni Arndt, Mayor of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby proclaim September 15-October 15, 2023, as

HISPANIC/LATINX/E HERITAGE MONTH

in Fort Collins and encourage residents to participate and to celebrate the cultural riches that our Hispanic/Latinx/e community has to offer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 19th day of September, 2023.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk