PROCLAMATION Hispanic Heritage Month September 15 – October 15, 2024

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month is a month-long celebration dedicated to recognizing Hispanic and Latino history and culture, highlighting the vital contributions of the Hispanic/Latino community in enhancing our democracy; and

WHEREAS, this month provides an opportunity to acknowledge the profound impact that Latinas and Latinos have had on the United States, Michigan, Oakland County, and the City of Madison Heights across generations; and

WHEREAS, the Latino presence in America dates back centuries, even before Spain's colonization, and has played a crucial role in shaping our nation since the Revolutionary War; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month originated as a week-long celebration in 1968 under President Johnson and was extended to a month by President Reagan in 1988, allowing for greater recognition of the significant contributions made by Hispanic/Latino Americans; and

WHEREAS, this celebration spans from mid-September to mid-October to align with the independence days of several Central American countries, starting on September 15 with Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, thereby honoring the resilience of the Hispanic community; and

WHEREAS, the Mexican Consulate in Detroit, located in Madison Heights, collaborates closely with Mayor Grafstein and the City Council to advocate for Hispanic/Latino representation. Latinas and Latinos continue to be influential as business owners, activists, artists, public servants, and more. Their leadership in the military and the civil rights movement showcases their commitment to progress and equality; and

WHEREAS, the City of Madison Heights Mayor and City Council is committed to continue building upon its relationship with the Mexican Consulate in Detroit;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, we, the City of Madison Heights Mayor and City Council, hereby proclaim September 15th - October 15th, 2024, as Hispanic Heritage Month. We encourage all citizens to promote equity, build alliances, celebrate diversity, and foster safe environments in our schools and communities throughout the City.

Roslyn Grafstein Mayor

Mark Bliss Mavor Pro Tem

William J. Mier Councilman

David M. Soltis Councilor Sean D. Fleming (Councilman

Emily J. Rohrbach

Councilor

Quinn J. Wright

Councilor