

# Proclamation

## City of Mission



**WHEREAS**, Small businesses have shaped the City of Mission's history since 1906, when developers John J. Conway and J. W. Holt purchased large tracts of land near the Rio Grande and established La Lomita Land Company that gave rise to the city; and

**WHEREAS**, Mission has been fostering entrepreneurship since the days of John H. Shary, who purchased 16,000 acres of brush land and turned it into the Rio Grande Valley's iconic citrus industry; and

**WHEREAS**, Mission has since grown from a railroad stop to a thriving city of nearly 90,000 known as the home of the Ruby Red grapefruit; and

**WHEREAS**, Mission is now home to hundreds of small businesses that contribute to the wellbeing of the local, state and national economy; and

**WHEREAS**, Mission's local and national small businesses produced a record number of retail sales taxes in 2022 at \$24.4 million; and

**WHEREAS**, Those businesses employ more 35,000 residents that live within the city limits; and

**WHEREAS**, A healthy local economy is reflected in the City of Mission's rapid growth as more and more businesses are launched here; and

**WHEREAS**, Small businesses can turn to the Mission Economic Development Corporation for guidance, assistance and participation in a number of programs aimed at attracting, retaining and expanding business; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Mission and Mission EDC incentivize small businesses annually to expand or locate to the area through its Business Retention and Expansion program .

**NOW THEREFORE**, we the City Council of the City of Mission do hereby proclaim April 30 through May 6, 2023 as: "***Small Business Development Week and Discover Mission: Shop Local Week***" in Mission, Texas as we continue to build on our business history.

**PROCLAIMED** on this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023

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Norie Gonzalez Garza, Mayor

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Jessica Ortega, Councilwoman

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Ruben Plata, Mayor Pro Tem

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Marissa Ortega-Gerlach, Councilwoman

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Alberto Vela, Councilman