

**A PROCLAMATION IN CELEBRATION OF
HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**

WHEREAS, National Hispanic Heritage Month began in 1968 as a weeklong celebration, and later expanded to become a full month of recognition, to honor the contributions, cultures, and histories of Hispanic and Latino people as critical components of American history; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from September 15 to October 15 annually to coincide with the anniversaries of independence for the Latin American nations of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, Chile and Belize; and

WHEREAS, Metro Parks celebrates our Hispanic and Latino communities, which comprise 12 percent of Tacoma’s population and 19 percent of our nation’s population; and

WHEREAS, Metro Parks Tacoma is committed to reforming as an anti-racist agency which celebrates, collaborates and integrates the cultures of our community in our work; and

WHEREAS, Metro Parks Tacoma aims to steward spaces and cultivate opportunities that promote shared understanding and appreciation of Hispanic and Latino cultures in our community; and

WHEREAS, our ability to provide culturally relevant stewardship and programming is made possible through essential partnerships with community organizations and leaders including Voice Tacoma Radio Universal, Esperanza Movil, Calavera Collective and more; and

WHEREAS, we recommit ourselves to working alongside these community leaders to incorporate awareness, engagement and celebration of Hispanic and Latino cultures and histories throughout our Park District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Park Commissioners hereby honors and recognizes September 15 to October 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month.

The foregoing proclamation was adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners of the
Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma at a regularly scheduled meeting held on September 9, 2024.

ATTEST:

Board President

Board Clerk