



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month is an opportunity to celebrate the culture, history, and contributions of Hispanic American citizens their highlights the countless achievements and contributions; and

WHEREAS, the observance began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon B. Johnson; and was observed annually until 1988 when it was expanded by President Ronald Reagan to the period of September 15th through October 15th and became National Hispanic Heritage Month, and has been celebrated annually since then; and

WHEREAS, more than 60 million Americans of Hispanic origin today contribute to our national diversity, enriching the quality of American life with centuries old traditions that reflect the multi-ethnic and multicultural customs of their communities, while adding their own distinct and dynamic perspectives to the story of our country; and

WHEREAS, this observance affords special opportunities to become more knowledgeable about Hispanic heritage and to honor the many Hispanic Americans who represent a significant and fast growing sector of the City of Gastonia, we honor the invaluable ways they contribute to our country; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Walker E. Reid III, Mayor of the City of Gastonia and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, do hereby proclaim the month beginning **September 15** and ending **October 15, 2021** as

National Hispanic Heritage Month

and urge all citizens to join us in celebrating the great contributions of Hispanic Americans to our city, state, and nation.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Gastonia to be affixed, this 21st day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-one.

Walker E. Reid III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Suzanne J. Gibbs, City Clerk