



# ***CITY OF SEBASTOPOL***

## ***PROCLAMATION***

A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL  
DECLARING SEPTEMBER 15 TO OCTOBER 15, 2022 AS  
LATIN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, each year the United States observes National Latin-American Heritage Month by celebrating the culture, heritage and countless contributions of those whose ancestors came from Latin American countries; and

WHEREAS, The idea for National Latin-American Heritage Month, celebrated throughout the latter half of September and the first half of October, began as a way to promote the history, culture, and contributions of Hispanic Americans — specifically, those whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. Communities mark the achievements of Hispanic and Latino Americans with festivals and educational activities; and

WHEREAS, Observation of Latin-American Heritage Week started in 1968 under President Lyndon B. Johnson and was later extended to a 30-day celebration by President Ronald Reagan, starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law via approval of Public Law 100-402 on August 17, 1988; and

WHEREAS, during National Latin-American Heritage Month, we celebrate and honor the invaluable contributions that Latino and Hispanic people and culture have made to our State and our community, and to our common goals as we work toward a more inclusive, equitable society; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sebastopol honors the resilience of Latino and Hispanic communities who have persisted through centuries of discrimination to lead movements for justice and equality. Cesar Chavez said, "History will judge societies and governments - and their institutions - not just by how big they are or how well they serve the rich and powerful, but by how effectively they respond to the needs of the poor and helpless;"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sebastopol recognizes that the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family are the foundation of freedom, justice and promotion of social progress and better standards of life; and

WHEREAS, During National Latin-American Heritage Month, we reaffirm the City of Sebastopol's commitment to the values of dignity, inclusivity, and respect for all, regardless of ethnic or national origin, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or immigration status .

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the City Council of the City of Sebastopol hereby proclaims September 15th – October 15th, 2022 as Latin-American Heritage Month and encourages all residents of Sebastopol to share in this special annual tribute by learning about and celebrating the generations of Latin Americans who have influenced and enriched our community.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and the Great Seal of the City of Sebastopol this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "PAT SLAYTE". The letters are stylized and connected, with a prominent "P" and "S".

Patrick Slayter, Mayor, City of Sebastopol