



**HONORARY PROCLAMATION
DECLARING JULY 2024 AS
“PARKS MAKE LIFE BETTER!” MONTH**

WHEREAS, Parks and Recreation *promote physical, emotional and mental health and wellness* through organized and self-directed fitness, play, and activity; and

WHEREAS, Parks and Recreation *support the economic vitality of communities* by partnering with local businesses and non-profits, and offering events for resident engagement; and

WHEREAS, Parks and Recreation *create memorable experiences* through youth sports and enrichment activities, teen centers and programs, senior activity centers, adult fitness and enrichment programs, free community events, and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Parks and Recreation *foster social cohesiveness* in communities by celebrating diversity, providing spaces to come together peacefully, modeling compassion, promoting social equity, connecting social networks, and ensuring all people have access to its benefits; and

WHEREAS, Parks and Recreation *support human development* and endless learning opportunities that foster social, intellectual, physical and emotional growth in people of all ages and abilities; and

WHEREAS, Parks and Recreation *strengthen community identity* by providing facilities and services that reflect and celebrate community character, heritage, culture, history, aesthetics and landscape; and

WHEREAS, Parks and Recreation *facilitate community problem and issue resolution* by providing safe spaces to come together peacefully and serving as key points of service, helping our communities heal both physically and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, Parks and Recreation *sustain and steward our natural resources* by protecting habitats and open space, connecting people to nature, and promoting the ecological function of parkland; and

WHEREAS, Parks and Recreation *supports safe, vibrant, attractive, progressive communities* that make life better through positive alternatives offered in their recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Parks and Recreation remain *versatile and innovative* in providing vital services to communities through local, national, or global emergencies, all while adhering to guidelines set forth by governing agencies; and

WHEREAS, The California Park & Recreation Society has released a statewide public awareness campaign, “Parks Make Life Better!®” to inform citizens of the many benefits of utilizing parks, facilities, programs, and services;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Caren Ray Russom, Mayor of the City of Arroyo Grande hereby recognize the importance of access to local parks, trails, open space, and facilities for the health, wellness, development, inspiration, and safety of all Californians; and declare the month of July 2024 as “Parks Make Life Better!” Month in Arroyo Grande.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Arroyo Grande to be affixed this 25th day of June 2024.

CAREN RAY RUSSOM, MAYOR

