



**HONORARY PROCLAMATION
RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2023
AS "BLACK HISTORY MONTH"**

WHEREAS, the City of Arroyo Grande is welcoming, inclusive, and dedicated to improving the quality of life for those who live, work, and visit here; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month grew out of the establishment, in 1926, of Negro History Week by Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH); and

WHEREAS, the observance of Black History Month calls for our attention to the continued need to battle racism and build a society that lives up to its democratic ideals; and

WHEREAS, the ASALH has established the 2023 national theme for observance of this year's Black History Month is "Black Resistance," and acknowledges that African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression, in all forms; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arroyo Grande continues to work toward becoming an inclusive community in which all citizens – past, present, and future – are respected and recognized for their contributions and potential contributions to our community, the state, the country, and the world; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arroyo Grande is proud to honor the history and contributions of African Americans in our community, throughout our state, and nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Caren Ray Russom, Mayor of the City of Arroyo Grande, do hereby proclaim February 2023 as "Black History Month" and encourage all citizens to celebrate our diverse heritage and culture, and continue our efforts to create a world that is more just, peaceful, and prosperous for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Arroyo Grande to be affixed this 24th day of January 2023.

CAREN RAY RUSSOM, MAYOR

