



**HONORARY PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING
DECEMBER 2023 AS
PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE MONTH**

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the City to make Arroyo Grande the best place possible for everyone who lives, works, and visits; and

WHEREAS, the Arroyo Grande community calls for local civic action to stop hate and biases that pose a threat to the safety of our people and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, discrimination causes disparate and unequal outcomes in housing, education, employment, criminal justice, health, and leads to economic hardships; and racism, bias, and hate has no place in our society or in our community. We must protect the constitutional rights of everyone in our community and foster a community that is welcoming to all people regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arroyo Grande is dedicated to preventing and opposing hate and intolerance in our communities; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that a resolution or a single action, in and of itself, will not change a community but rather that we are all responsible, both individually and collectively, for creating and fostering an anti-racist and unbiased community in our words and actions, and that we must actively acknowledge and stand-up against bias and discrimination of any kind; and

WHEREAS, education, compassion, and cooperation are key to understanding and embracing differences between people; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2022, the Arroyo Grande Council adopted a resolution adopting a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice Policy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arroyo Grande seeks to address systemic racism and inequality through our Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice Policy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arroyo Grande is committed to supporting diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice, in all facets of society; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arroyo Grande believes diversity strengthens the community and will continue to stand firmly against hate and biases wherever it may be.

WHEREAS, a proclamation that the month of December be designated for promotion of these central goals of peace, nonviolence, and anti-racism will bring awareness and support the City's commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice, in all facets of society and government; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Caren Ray Russom, Mayor of the City of Arroyo Grande, do hereby proclaim December 2023 as Peace & Nonviolence Month.



CAREN RAY RUSSOM, MAYOR