

COSUMNES COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

PROCLAMATION

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

WHEREAS, the Cosumnes Community Services District supports women's right to civic engagement, facilitates opportunities, and promotes access to leadership roles within our community's public spheres; and

WHEREAS, the American Constitution has been reimagined time and again, battling barriers to voting and equality, to advance the ideal of a truly representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, the right to vote (once exclusively granted to white, male, property owners) was extended to women through the 19th Amendment which was certified August 26th of 1920; and

WHEREAS, the amendment required a massive social re-alignment as women's critical participation in public life was made evident following World War I, even though women had long since played important roles in war efforts, including the Civil War where records show women disguised as men; and

WHEREAS, the District honors the history of transformative social change made possible by women in the National American Women Suffrage Association who rallied the public, and lobbied the government in a decades-long, state-by-state battle which began in 1890; and

WHEREAS, through the bold action of suffrage leaders such as Susan B. Anthony, who led a group of women to the polls in defiance of voting laws, and the support of prominent abolitionist, such as Sojourner Truth and Frances E.W. Harper, who understood that the language of democracy include legal protections for black women and men, underscoring the principals of equality and freedom from oppression; and

WHEREAS, the District recognizes the important contributions of women in our community as leaders, decision-makers, bridge-builders, authority-wielders, idea-generators, caretakers, and all the visible and invisible ways in which they inspire and shape the world around us; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that over eight million women participated in the presidential election of 1920, but lawful barriers blocked women of color from voting and present-day voting requirements have disproportionately prevented Americans in targeted communities from freely voting; and

WHEREAS, the District carries the history of this movement into present-day conversations about access and equity, reflecting on the unique challenges experienced by women and women of color in particular; and.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Cosumnes Community Services District Board of Directors does hereby commemorate the anniversary date of August 26th, when the 19th Amendment was certified officially extending the right to vote to women, as:

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

DONE AND PROCLAIMED this 4th day of August, 2021 in Elk Grove, California.



Jim Luttrell, President



Jaclyn Moreno, Vice President



Rod Brewer, Director



ATTEST:



Gil Albiani, Director



Orlando Fuentes, Director



Joshua Green, General Manager