

# 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 revised on keystone moments in our national history to rise to the challenges facing our nation and better advance the ideals 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 was largely the consequence of a massive sociopolitical re-alignment following the First World War, and women-led efforts during and following the First World War shifted public opinion in support of women having a right to vote; 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**, 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

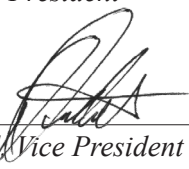
**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Cosumnes Community Services District Board of Directors does hereby commemorate the anniversary date of August 26th, when the 19th Amendment was certified officially extending the right to vote to women, as:

## WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

**DONE AND PROCLAIMED** this 26<sup>TH</sup> day August 2023, in Elk Grove, California.



*Gil Albiani, President*



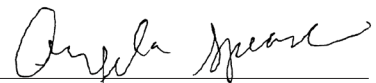
*Jim Luttrell, Vice President*



*Peter Sakaris, Director*



*Orlando Fuentes, Director*



*Angela Spease, Director*

**ATTEST:**



*Phil Lewis, General Manager/ CEO*