



CITY OF SEBASTOPOL

Proclamation

Proclaiming Recognizing August 26, 2020 As Women's Equality Day

Whereas, the right to vote, the cornerstone of democracy, belongs to all citizens — but this wasn't always the case; and

Whereas, to claim their voice, women began agitating for the right to vote in the early 19th century; and

Whereas, to remind us of the struggles of the past, present and future, Congress designated August 26 as Women's Equality Day in 1971; and

Whereas, August 26, 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution which secured the right to vote for women; and

Whereas, in 1976, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors established one of the first Commissions on the Status of Women in the State of California with the purpose of promoting "equal rights and opportunities that enhance the quality of life for all women and girls" and addressing "issues of discrimination and prejudice that negatively affect women in Sonoma County"; and

Whereas, women now constitute nearly 50 percent of the workforce, the majority of students in our colleges and graduate schools, and an increasing number of primary breadwinners; and

Whereas, during the current COVID-19 environment, women workers in Sonoma County, including in Sebastopol, are disproportionately in the lowest paying jobs, and suffer higher rates of unemployment; and

Whereas, even with the gains women have made, significant work remains to be done to ensure equal pay for equal work and especially regarding improving opportunities for lowest wage workers; and

Whereas, Women's Equality Day celebrates the achievements of women's rights activists and reminds us of the unique daily struggles that women face.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Mayor Patrick Slayter, on behalf of the City of Sebastopol Proclaims and Recognizes August 26, 2020 as WOMENS EQUALITY DAY, marking the 100th anniversary of the enactment of the 19th Amendment, celebrating the achievements of

women and recommitting to realizing gender equality in the City of Sebastopol in all areas of employment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the Great Seal of the City of Sebastopol this 4th day of August 2020.

Handwritten signature of Patrick Slayter in black ink.

Patrick Slayter
Mayor

DRAFT