


City of Richmond

Proclamation



Recognizing John E. Marquez for His Visionary Leadership and His Significant Contributions to the Welfare of our Community.

WHEREAS, John E. Marquez as the first Latino City Councilmember, initially appointed in 1985 and subsequently elected, Mr. Marquez served the community with dedication and foresight through various tenures until 2008. His leadership during times of both adversity and progress has left an indelible mark on the city; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Marquez played a pivotal role in significant civic developments and initiatives that spurred economic growth, enhanced community safety, and supported the city's diverse population. Notably, he advocated for the undocumented residents of Richmond, supported expansions that brought jobs and opportunities to the area, and was instrumental in fostering relationships that bridged community and law enforcement efforts towards reducing violence; and

WHEREAS, his impactful political career, Mr. Marquez has been a fervent activist and educator, founding the Latino Club and the "La Raza Studies" department at Contra Costa College. His academic pursuits and military service further highlight his multifaceted commitment to public service; and

WHEREAS, John E. Marquez is also celebrated as a co-founder of the Cinco de Mayo celebration in Richmond, which has grown to become the largest such celebration in Northern California. This event not only honors cultural heritage but also fosters community unity and pride, enhancing the cultural landscape of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Marquez currently represents Ward 1 on the Contra Costa Community College District Governing Board, advocating for educational excellence and access, further demonstrating his commitment to community development and success; and



WHEREAS, exhibiting unwavering service and dedication, Mr. Marquez was honored as the 2006 Contra Costa County Hispanic of the Year and recognized by the California State Assembly for outstanding community service. His professional and personal endeavors exemplify a commitment to enhancing the lives of those around him.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Mayor Eduardo Martinez, and the Richmond City Council, on May 28, 2024, do hereby express our deepest appreciation for his visionary leadership and his significant contributions to the civic, cultural, and educational welfare of our community.

Mayor Eduardo Martinez
City of Richmond

Council Member Soheila Bana
City of Richmond
District 4

Council Member Cesar Zepeda
City of Richmond
District 2

