

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 23-**

DECLARING MARCH 2023 AS IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, Irish American Heritage Month (a federal designation) was first observed in 1991 by proclamation of the President and Congress in the United States to honor the achievements and contributions of Irish immigrants and their descendants living in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. President and Congress proclaimed March as Irish American Heritage Month and March was chosen because it coincides with a major Irish observance, St. Patrick's Day, celebrated on March 17; and

WHEREAS, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. states in the 2022 Irish American Heritage Month proclamation that "for centuries, Irish Americans have played a crucial role in helping define the soul of our Nation, and today, nearly 1 in 10 Americans proudly trace their roots back to the Emerald Isle"; and

WHEREAS, March was selected for Irish American Heritage Month to coincide with St Patrick's Day, a major Irish holiday observed on March 17; and

WHEREAS, it is the vision of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) to bring together diverse perspectives and backgrounds to promote the understanding, valuing, acceptance, and leveraging of diverse cultures, experiences, knowledge, lifestyles, and perspectives in order to enhance the delivery of products and services to the community; and

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Office of Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion to promote equality and inclusion so that employees may develop and contribute to their full potential, thereby advancing Valley Water's commitment to creating an inclusive work environment that reflects and supports the diversity of the community and enriches our perspectives in accordance with Governance Policy 7.7.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Water District hereby recognizes March 2023 as Irish American Heritage Month and will coordinate acknowledgment of the observance through the Office of Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Water District by the following vote on February 28, 2023:

AYES: Directors

NOES: Directors

ABSENT: Directors

ABSTAIN: Directors

SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

JOHN L. VARELA
Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST: MICHELE L. KING, CMC

Clerk, Board of Directors