City of Santa Rosa

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Jewish Americans have been an important part of the American story and have greatly contributed to all areas of American life and culture since our nation's earliest days; and

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2006, the Federal Government proclaimed May as Jewish American Heritage Month, stating, "As a nation of immigrants, the United States is better and stronger because Jewish people from all over the world have chosen to become American citizens," and, since then, proclamations in support of Jewish American Heritage Month have been made by Presidents of the United States annually; and

WHEREAS, generations of Jews have fled to the United States in search of a better life for themselves and their families, and these immigrants made invaluable contributions in support of equality and civil rights through their leadership and achievements; and

WHEREAS, Jewish Americans connect to their Jewish identity in a variety of ways, such as culturally, ethnically, religiously and by following Jewish ethics and values; and

WHEREAS, Jewish Americans are racially, ethnically, socially, politically, and economically diverse, and around 25 percent of Bay Area Jewish households include a person of color, increasing to nearly 40 percent of households if the head of the household is younger than 35; and

WHEREAS, in 2022 Jewish Americans faced a dramatic rise in antisemitic incidents—36% higher than in 2021—including but not limited to physical attacks, vandalism, verbal and physical harassment, and hateful comments posted on social media, and

WHEREAS, Santa Rosa shares an obligation to condemn and combat antisemitism wherever it exists, to include Jewish Americans in all facets of civic life, and to stand with the Jewish American community against hatred or bigotry in our city and country; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for education and policies that are culturally competent when describing, discussing, or addressing the impacts of being Jewish in all aspects of American society, including discourse and policy; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the rich and diverse heritage of the Jewish American community, including those who live, work and play in Santa Rosa, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, I, Natalie Rogers, Mayor of the City of Santa Rosa, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim May

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mayor Natalie Rogers
May 23, 2023