

# CITY OF FRESNO

*Offices of Mayor Jerry P. Dyer and Councilmember Brandon Vang*

*In Honor of*

*The Hmong Inc.*

**WHEREAS**, this year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hmong community’s migration to the United States. Fresno is home to one of the largest Hmong populations in the world, and has the largest Hmong New Year celebration that brings in over 100,000 attendees annually; and

**WHEREAS**, the first Hmong families began arriving in Fresno after fleeing the Vietnam War, during which the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) recruited and trained soldiers to form a guerilla force to fight in the “Secret War” and counter the spread of communism. The Hmong New Year serves as a time to honor the bravery and resilience of the sacrifices made by Hmong soldiers; and

**WHEREAS**, Hmong New Year is the celebration and welcoming of the new year. It is a time to reflect and honor traditions, culture, arts, and community; and

**WHEREAS**, the traditional Hmong New Year marked the end of the harvest season and brought together generations to engage in traditional practices, such as ball tossing, dance, pageantry, and the showcasing of traditional Hmong embroidery; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hmong New Year Celebration bid was awarded to The Hmong Inc. on May 23, 2023. The Hmong New Year has a deep cultural history at the Fresno Fairgrounds and has been recognized as one of Fresno’s largest cultural celebrations; and

**WHEREAS**, The Hmong Inc. has shown outstanding dedication to preserving and celebrating the rich cultural tradition, language, and history of the Hmong people. The annual Hmong New Year Celebration, hosted by The Hmong Inc., provides an opportunity for community members to gather in unity, strengthen intergenerational ties, and celebrate the legacy of the Hmong community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, Mayor Jerry Dyer, Councilmember Brandon Vang, and the Fresno City Council, do hereby acknowledge:

*The Hmong Inc.*

*in the City of Fresno.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and affixed the Great Seal of the City of Fresno, California, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December of the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.*

*JERRY P. DYER, Honorable Mayor*

*MIKE KARBASSI, Council President, District 2*

*MIGUEL ARIAS, Council Vice President, District 3*

*ANNALISA PEREA, Councilmember, District 1*

*TYLER MAXWELL, Councilmember, District 4*

*BRANDON VANG, Councilmember, District 5*

*NICK RICHARDSON, Councilmember, District 6*

*NELSON ESPARZA, Councilmember, District 7*