

Agenda Date: 1/28/2021
Council Meeting

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CITY OF FRESNO
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FRESNO CITY COUNCIL



Information Packet

ITEM(S)

File ID 21-131 (4-A)

A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Fresno Urging That NFL Legend Tom Flores Be Inducted Into The 2021 Pro Football Hall Of Fame

Contents of Supplement: Resolution.

Item(s)

Supplemental Information:

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)). In addition, Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street. Supplemental Packets are also available on-line on the City Clerk's website.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

The meeting room is accessible to the physically disabled, and the services of a translator can be made available. Requests for additional accommodations for the disabled, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or translators should be made one week prior to the meeting. Please call City Clerk's Office at 621-7650. Please keep the doorways, aisles and wheelchair seating areas open and accessible. If you need assistance with seating because of a disability, please see Security.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRESNO
URGING THAT NFL LEGEND TOM FLORES BE INDUCTED
INTO THE 2021 PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

WHEREAS, Tom Flores, 83, has been a history-making player and head coach during his time with the American Football League (AFL) and the National Football League (NFL) as both a player and a coach. Even with making history in professional football, Flores has not been inducted to the Pro Football Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Tom Flores is one of two people in National Football history to win a Super Bowl as a player, assistant coach, and head coach. He had made history within the National Football league as the first-ever Latino starting quarterback. He has shown the community and the nation that through hard work, it does not matter who someone is but rather what they are capable of; and

WHEREAS, Thomas "Tom" Raymond Flores was born on March 21, 1937, in Sanger, California. Graduating from Sanger Union High School; and

WHEREAS, Tom Flores played for the Fresno City College Football starting in 1955. While at Fresno City, Flores was part of the Student Body Council and the President of the Associated Men's Students. He attended the University of Pacific, formerly College of Pacific, upon graduation from Fresno City College on academic scholarship; and

WHEREAS, After playing at the University of Pacific in Stockton, California, Flores went on to play in the Canadian Football League. Flores returned to the Central Valley to play for the Bakersfield Spoilers, and through hard work and determination, he went on to play for teams like the Oakland Raiders, Kansas City Chiefs, and the Buffalo Bills; and

WHEREAS, Flores signed to the Oakland Raiders in 1960, making him the first Latino quarterback in NFL history. In 1967, Flores would go on to play for the Buffalo Bills for two seasons, whereafter he would sign with the Kansas City Chiefs. During his time with Kansas City Chiefs, Flores won the first Super Bowl (IV) of his career; and

WHEREAS, After the 1970 season, Tom Flores would retire as a player and become an assistant coach for both the Buffalo Bills and the Oakland Raiders. He would be one of 20 players to have played in the American Football League (AFL) in its existence; and

WHEREAS, During his time as an assistant coach with the Oakland Raiders under John Madden, Flores would win his second Super Bowl (XI). In 1979, Tom Flores would take the coaching reins from Coach John Madden and become the head coach of the Oakland Raiders. This time in which Tom Flores coached the Raiders would be pivotal in the team's history. Flores led the team to a Super Bowl (XV) victory in 1980 over the Philadelphia Eagles, making it his first Super Bowl win as the head coach of a team; and

WHEREAS, A few years after the Raider's victory under Tom Flores, he would lead the team to another journey. Moving the Oakland Raiders to Los Angeles in 1982 and making them the Los Angeles Raiders. The same year as the move to Los Angeles, Tom Flores would be recognized by his alma mater, the University of Pacific, being inducted to their Athletics Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, After a year of the Raiders being the City of Los Angeles, the team won another Super Bowl (XVIII) under Tom Flores' coaching. This victory would make Tom Flores, a coach, who could accomplish another success after a year move to another city, just like before—proving that Tom Flores' coaching was an essential part of the team victories; and

WHEREAS, With all his Super Bowl victories, Tom Flores would become one of two people who have won the Super Bowl as a player, an assistant coach, and a head coach. Those wins meant much more than any straightforward victory for Flores, and it told that a son of immigrants from Chihuahua, Mexico can make history; and

WHEREAS, At the end of his time with the Raiders, Tom Flores went on to coach the Seattle Seahawks, he would retire from coaching soon after his time with the Seahawks. During his football career, Flores created a legacy of his coaching and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, From 1997 to 2018, Tom Flores was the radio announcer for the Raiders Radio Network and never forgetting where he came from, Tom Flores created a foundation, the Tom Flores Youth Foundation, that benefits K-8th programs in art, science, and sports. He has continued to show gratitude for his community throughout his career and beyond —ensuring that students are given the best opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Tom Flores, one of few eligible coaches to be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fall, has yet to be inducted. Being nominated in 2019 and 2020, but overlooked those two years. In 2021, Tom Flores once more is a finalist to be considered for induction to the Pro Football Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, The Committee of Pro Football Hall of Fame, will vote on the week of February 6, 2021, where to be inducted Tom Flores must receive 80 percent of the votes of the committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Fresno Council, on behalf of the City and all the residents thereof, urges the Pro Football Coach Committee to induct the First Latino Quarterback in Professional Football and legendary Head Coach Tom Flores into its Pro Football Hall of Fame for the Class of 2021, an honor that is long overdue.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the City of Fresno Council transmit copies of this resolution to the Pro Football Hall of Fame Coach Committee and National Football League Commissioner Roger Goodell.

CLERK CERTIFICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF FRESNO)
CITY OF FRESNO)

I, YVONNE SPENCE, City Clerk of the City of Fresno, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Fresno, at regular meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 2021.

AYES :
NOES :
ABSENT :
ABSTAIN :

YVONNE SPENCE, MMC
City Clerk

BY: _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

BY: _____