

RESOLUTION NO. 2021- R

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN MARCOS, TEXAS ESTABLISHING A MEXICAN AMERICAN AND INDIGENOUS HERITAGE AND CULTURAL DISTRICT GENERALLY IN THE AREA OF HOPKINS STREET AT CITY PARK ALONG THE SAN MARCOS RIVER AND EAST OF IH-35 TO DURANGO STREET AND STAPLES ROAD, SOUTH TO ELLIS STREET AND WEST TO PURGATORY CREEK; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

RECITALS:

1. The current conversations across the United States include *equity for all* who reside in this country, where there is a long history of discrimination against non-white people, including the disruption of ancestral burial sites and taking of ancestral remains, the taking of their lands and displacement of communities, suppression of their history, languages, culture and traditions.

2. These communities are seeking to preserve their neighborhoods by elevating awareness and recognizing their historical and cultural value, thereby halting massive gentrification which changes the culture and character of neighborhoods and eventually displaces longtime residents.

3. There is historical documentation of four Mexican American neighborhoods (barrios) established from Hopkins Street at City Park along the San Marcos River and east of IH-35 to Durango Street and Staples Road, south to Ellis Street and west to Purgatory Creek.

4. The City of San Marcos imposed eminent domain and eradicated the homes from the first barrio (within the East Guadalupe Neighborhood) from Hopkins Street at City Park to Cheatham Street to Guadalupe Street, displacing many businesses and all of the residents who lived in these neighborhoods including those located at Rio Vista Park; thereby erasing the important history and contributions of many of the original pioneer Mexican American families.

5. The community seeks to preserve the rich history and cultural heritage of the remaining original three Mexican American neighborhoods/barrios by establishing a Heritage and Cultural District, thereby elevating the awareness of the historical significance of these neighborhoods and the families that established them.

6. The cultural and community contributions of the Sociedad Mutualista and Cuauhtemoc Hall, with origins dating to the Mexican Revolution, are highly valued and recognized as a cultural icon located in El Barrio de la Victoria (Victory Gardens).

7. Centro Cultural Hispano de San Marcos, established in the historical Southside School, formerly known as the “Mexican School” and located in, the East Guadalupe Neighborhood continues to be a cultural hub for the community.

8. The Indigenous Cultures Institute, established in 2006, has been providing

educational, economic and historical programming for our communities, and seeks to preserve and educate the community about the heritage and rich cultural contributions of the Indigenous People that have occupied this area for over 14,000 years.

9. The City of San Marcos is the local governing authority of the municipality where the Heritage and Cultural District is defined and requested.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN MARCOS, TEXAS:

PART 1. The City Council of San Marcos, Texas, does hereby establish a Heritage and Cultural District for the areas recognized as the first four established Mexican American neighborhoods:

- a.** The first and second barrios established in East Guadalupe Neighborhood;
- b.** El Barrio de la Victoria, known as Victory Gardens Neighborhood; and
- c.** El Barrio del Pescado, known as Wallace Addition,

thereby recognizing, acknowledging and preserving the rich history and cultural contributions made to the City of San Marcos by the pioneer families and current residents of these neighborhoods.

PART 2. This resolution shall become effective immediately from and after its passage.

ADOPTED on August 3, 2021.

Jane Hughson
Mayor

Attest:

Tammy K. Cook
Interim City Clerk