

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including the City of Merced; and

**WHEREAS,** our parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region; and

whereas, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and also improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** parks and recreation areas are fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

**WHEREAS,** our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

whereas, the residents of the City of Merced including children, youth, families, adults, seniors, businesses, community organizations, and visitors benefit from the wide range of parks, trails, open space, sports fields, tennis courts, facilities and programs provided by the Parks and Recreation Department, including Movies in the Park, our splash parks, our expanded aquatics program, our renovated McNamara and Stephen Leonard Parks; and

**WHEREAS,** the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE MURPHY, Mayor** of the City of Merced, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim July 2018 as Parks and Recreation Month in the City of Merced and in doing so, urge all its citizens to use and enjoy its parks, trails, open space, facilities, and recreation opportunities.

Signed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2018.

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