

RESOLUTION NO. 73156

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE
ACKNOWLEDGING THE ROLE OF THE MEXICAN CULTURAL
HERITAGE GARDENS FACILITIES IN PRESERVING THE
HISTORY AND CULTURE OF CALIFORNIA AND ITS INTENT TO
CONTINUE THIS USE FOR AT LEAST THE NEXT 20 YEARS**

WHEREAS, on March 7, 1996, the City of San Jose (“City”) entered into an agreement with the Mexican Heritage Corporation (“MHC”) for the operation and maintenance of the Mexican Cultural Heritage Gardens Facilities; and

WHEREAS, MHC was founded by a diverse group of San Jose Mexican-American community leaders whose goal was to develop the City’s first Mexican cultural gardens and facilities; and

WHEREAS, that vision grew into a 55,000 square-foot cultural center with state of the art theatrical venues, a Smithsonian-affiliated gallery space and luscious thematic gardens that serve as a regional resource for cultural programming and education; and

WHEREAS, the Mexican Cultural Heritage Gardens Facilities are one of the largest Latino cultural centers in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the role of the Mexican Cultural Heritage Gardens Facilities is to celebrate the Mexican heritage of the City and to provide a special community based resource for artistic, cultural and educational groups; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, and in recognition of the City’s commitment to preserving the history and culture of California, MHC was awarded a \$1,000,000 grant from the State of California Historical and Cultural Resources Preservation Opportunity Grant Program (“State Grant Program”), which expires December 31, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the State Grant Program provides funds for capital improvements to facilities that are open to the public and committed to preserving the history and culture of California; and

WHEREAS, as a condition of providing this level of funding, the State has requested assurance from the City that the Mexican Cultural Heritage Gardens Facilities will remain open to the public and used for the preservation of California culture, including California's Mexican and diverse multicultural heritage and history for the next twenty years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE THAT:

The Mexican Cultural Heritage Gardens Facilities ("Facilities") are a permanent development comprised of a cultural center, plaza, gardens, classrooms, parking and other complementary improvements open to the public which are intended to provide the highest quality of artistic and cultural programming to visitors and residents of San Jose, by celebrating and preserving the rich cultural history of California's Latino and multicultural communities, and it is the intent of the City to continue the use of the Facilities for this purpose for at least the next twenty (20) years.

ADOPTED this 2nd day of May, 2006, by the following vote:

AYES: CAMPOS, CHIRCO, CORTESE, LeZOTTE, NGUYEN,
PYLE, REED, WILLIAMS, YEAGER, CHAVEZ

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: GONZALES

DISQUALIFIED: NONE

CINDY CHAVEZ
Vice Mayor

ATTEST:

LEE PRICE, MMC
City Clerk