

# Proclamation

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH

**WHEREAS**, *The United States Senate designated January 11 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day in 2007 and, beginning in 2010 by Presidential Proclamation, each January has been designated National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month; and*

**WHEREAS**, *human trafficking involves commercial sexual exploitation and labor exploitation. Sex trafficking is defined as “a commercial sex act that is induced by force, fraud, or coercion,” but if the person has not attained the age of 18 years old, force, fraud or coercion is not required. Labor trafficking is defined as, “the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery”; and*

**WHEREAS**, *human trafficking is a human rights violation, and a violation of both federal and California law, it also promotes the breakdown of families and communities, fuels organized crime, deprives countries of human capital, undermines public health, and imposes large economic costs; and*

**WHEREAS**, *the crime of human trafficking is present in every country and every U.S. state; and*

**WHEREAS**, *the FBI has identified California and the San Francisco Bay Area as an area of high prevalence for human trafficking. Although human trafficking is illegal, victims often do not recognize their victimization, do not know that help is available, or where to seek assistance; and*

**WHEREAS**, *forced labor, involuntary domestic servitude, and commercial sexual exploitation of adults and youth and have been found to exist within local communities; and*

**WHEREAS**, *public awareness about human trafficking still needs to reach broader communities and communicate more information about the nuances of this crime; and*


**WHEREAS**, *the County of San Mateo has dedicated resources including the San Mateo County Human Trafficking Program, and has supported the efforts of the San Mateo County Police Chiefs and Sheriff Association, and has partnered with other governmental and non-governmental organizations to identify and address human trafficking within San Mateo County;*

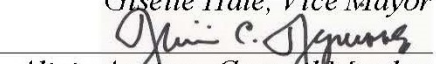
**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, DIANE HOWARD, MAYOR OF REDWOOD CITY**, on behalf of the City Council and the people of Redwood City, do hereby proclaim January 2021 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month in the City of Redwood City.

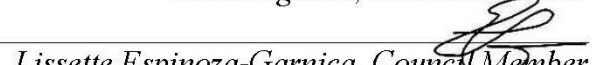
Date: January 25, 2021



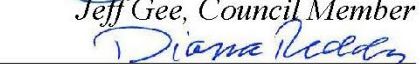
  
Diane Howard, Mayor


  
Giselle Hale, Vice Mayor

  
Alicia Aguirre, Council Member

  
Lissette Espinoza-Garnica, Council Member

  
Jeff Gee, Council Member

  
Diana Reddy, Council Member

  
Michael Smith, Council Member