



PROCLAMATION HONORING BOARD DIRECTOR ROSARIO
DECEMBER 17, 2024

WHEREAS, Dee Rosario began his remarkable journey with the East Bay Regional Park District in 1975. His career – marked by a series of significant roles, from park ranger and firefighter to fire lieutenant and ultimately park supervisor of Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park – reflects an unwavering commitment to public service; and

WHEREAS, in his distinguished 37-year career, Rosario has made invaluable contributions to the Park District. His tenure included pivotal moments such as his heroic actions during the 1991 Oakland Firestorm, where his bravery and dedication to protecting both people and place were instrumental in mitigating the devastation; and

WHEREAS, Rosario's leadership extended beyond his on-the-ground service. As a Board Director, beginning in November 2016, he played a crucial role in advancing the Park District's mission. His tenure on the Board included co-chairing Measure FF, which secured critical funding for park improvements, wildfire prevention and public safety. His governance on the Board was recognized with the prestigious 2024 California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Board Member of the Year award, highlighting his exceptional tireless leadership and effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, Rosario's vision and dedication led to the renaming of Redwood Regional Park in honor of Aurelia Reinhardt, a pioneering figure in the Park District's history. This act not only celebrated Reinhardt's legacy, but also underscored Rosario's commitment to preserving and honoring the heritage of the Park District and the diverse community of which it is a part; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Rosario has exemplified the essence of true leadership. His reflections on leadership emphasize that it is a privilege – a privilege to cultivate growth, creativity and compassion in others. He has consistently sought to develop future leadership, nurturing the next generation to continue his legacy of service and dedication; and

WHEREAS, Rosario has also contributed his expertise to various organizations beyond the Park District, including serving on the Alameda County Parks, Recreation and Historical Commission, the Board of Directors for the Friends of Sausal Creek, the Regional Parks Association Board of Directors, the Oakland Fire-Safe Council Board and the California Alliance for Retired Americans in Alameda County; and

WHEREAS, following Rosario's retirement from the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District, his dedication, achievements, and the inspiration he has provided will be remembered and cherished by all who have had the honor to work with him.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved the East Bay Regional Park District officially honors Board Director Dee Rosario for his 37 years of dedicated service with the East Bay Regional Park District and his remarkable contributions as a Board Director.

SUPPLEMENTAL – V.A. Special Presentations

We express our deepest gratitude for his leadership, compassion, positive spirit, joy and laughter, and unwavering commitment to the preservation and enhancement of our community's natural and recreational resources.