

*City of Santa Clara*  
**Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month is celebrated each August to honor American Muslims for their many social, cultural, and economic contributions; and
- WHEREAS,** the shelter-in-place order, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, forced the temporary closure of Muslim nonprofits, community centers, mosques, schools, businesses; and
- WHEREAS,** the Muslim Community Association (MCA) normally provides social services and Friday congregational prayers with over 3,000 attendees, but due to the pandemic, has had to suspend its services and shifted to sharing sermons and programming online; the MCA has hosted multiple drive-thru food distributions for the greater community, partnered with Al-Misbah to collect food items to donate to refugees, coordinated a "Community Cares" program to drop off essentials and donations to community members in need, and increased donations to over \$175,000 through their Zakat funds since the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- WHEREAS,** Islamic Relief USA has committed to distributing \$5 million nationwide in COVID-19 assistance, and its North West office located in Santa Clara, has coordinated with local charities to distribute masks, hygiene kits, hundreds of meals, and 50,000 lbs. of food to at-risk communities in the Bay Area, and packed 50,000 meals that were sent overseas; and
- WHEREAS,** the San Francisco Bay Area office of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-SFBA), has expanded its legal services in response to the pandemic by providing guidance on housing issues, tenant rights, stimulus payments, and unemployment benefits; CAIR-SFBA has increased its online programming to incorporate virtual citizenship and legal clinics, 2020 Census and social justice webinars, a virtual Muslim Day at the Capitol Advocacy Week, townhalls with elected officials, and social justice webinars; and
- WHEREAS,** the Bay Area chapter of the Islamic Circle of North America provides programs and opportunities that empower American Muslims, and has provided financial assistance through its Coronavirus Relief Fund to support over 100 families, hundreds of meals through its Eid food distribution to four homeless shelters, biweekly Feed the Hungry programs, and essentials through its Shade for the Homeless Program and Abraham's Day events; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Santa Clara is enriched by the unparalleled diversity of its residents, and takes great pride in recognizing August as American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month to affirm the City's continued support and to stand in solidarity with the Muslim community against anti-Muslim rhetoric and attitudes, and to honor their rich history, cultural traditions, and significant contributions that have strengthened the Santa Clara community as a whole;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LISA M. GILLMOR,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor, and on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of August 2020, as

**American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month**

in the City of Santa Clara, and do hereby recognize the rich history and significant contributions that American Muslims have had on our city and community as a whole.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the City of Santa Clara, California, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020.



*Lisa M. Gillmor*

**LISA M. GILLMOR**  
**MAYOR**  
City of Santa Clara