

Proclamation

Welcoming Week September 12 - 21, 2025

WHEREAS, the United States is a nation of immigrants, whose strength comes from its diversity; and

WHEREAS, Redwood City has a diverse community in which at least 34% of residents have immigrated to the United States; and

WHEREAS, hate crimes and other incidents of racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, Islamophobia, and other forms of bias and discrimination continue to occur in our community and in our nation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redwood City is committed to building a welcoming and neighborly community, that is inclusive, hospitable, and welcoming; where people, families, and institutions thrive and the contributions of all are celebrated and valued; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redwood City stands strongly in support of inclusivity for our diverse community, honoring and protecting every individual regardless of race, creed, color, gender, religion, ethnicity, nationality, orientation, or identity; and

WHEREAS, education, compassion, and cooperation are key to unlocking understanding and embracing differences between people; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redwood City and numerous community partners hold events and activities focused on equity and inclusion throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, the collective work of the City of Redwood City and Redwood City Together to build a more welcoming and inclusive community not only supports but also enhances the City's existing Strategic Priorities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redwood City previously adopted Resolution Number 15561 on February 13, 2017, proclaiming the City of Redwood City a Welcoming City and joining the Welcoming Cities and Counties initiative; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redwood City previously adopted Resolution Number 15877 on August 10, 2020, declaring that Black Lives Matter and reaffirming the City of Redwood City's commitment to racial equity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redwood City previously added Equity as a Foundational Guiding Principle in the City's Strategic Plan on October 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redwood City previously adopted an Equity Work Plan on October 25, 2021, highlighting the City's action steps to advance equity for all residents of the City of Redwood City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redwood City and various community partners will hold events and activities focused on welcoming and inclusion, including but not limited to a recognition of Welcoming Stars awardees and celebration of the Welcoming Stars program, a Welcoming Week Story time, Voices of Welcome: A Story Wall, the celebration of Fiestas Patrias, and other various events; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redwood City seeks to join other communities around the State in recognizing Welcoming Week from September 12 to 21, 2025 as an important step in bridging divisions as well as strengthening our communities and affirming the importance of welcoming and inclusive places in achieving collective prosperity.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, MAYOR MARTÍNEZ SABALLOS, MAYOR OF REDWOOD CITY, on behalf of the City Council and the residents of Redwood City, do hereby proclaim September 12-21, 2025 as Welcoming Week.

Date: September 8, 2025



Elmer Martinez Saballos, Mayor

Kain Eakin, Vice Mayor

Isabella Chu, Council Member

Jeff Gao, Council Member

Diana Howard, Council Member

Marcella Padilla, Council Member

Chris Sturken, Council Member