

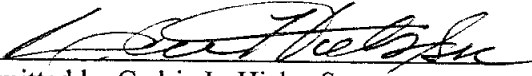


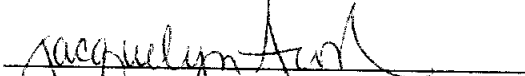
# City of Carson

## Report to Mayor and City Council

March 18, 2014  
New Business Consent

**SUBJECT: CONSIDER RECOGNIZING MARCH 31 AS CESAR CHAVEZ DAY**

  
Submitted by Cedric L. Hicks, Sr.  
Director of Community Services

  
Approved by Jacquelyn Acosta  
Acting City Manager

### **I. SUMMARY**

The City of Carson has an extensive history of honoring the life and achievements of Cesar Chavez, from adding Cesar Chavez Day to the list of City-recognized holidays (Exhibit No. 1), to supporting efforts to make Cesar Chavez a national holiday (Exhibit No. 2), to presenting an annual program in his honor. Tonight, the City Council is asked to consider officially recognizing March 31 as Cesar Chavez Day.

### **II. RECOMMENDATION**

RECOGNIZE March 31 as Cesar Chavez Day.

### **III. ALTERNATIVES**

TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

### **IV. BACKGROUND**

Cesar Estrada Chavez was born on March 31, 1927, in Yuma Arizona, to Librado and Juana Chavez. During his youth, Chavez worked part-time as a farm worker along with his parents, and his four siblings, Richard, Librado, Rita and Vicki. After completing the eighth grade, he went to work full-time in the fields to help support his family. During World War II, Chavez served in the United States Navy. When he completed his service, he returned to the fields to labor as a farm worker. In 1948, he married Helen Fabela, and later had 8 children.

Chavez worked the fields until 1952, when he became an organizer for the Community Service Organization, a Latino civil rights group, wherein he encouraged Mexican Americans to register and vote. In 1962, Chavez and Dolores Huerta formed the National Farmworkers Association (NFWA), which would later become the United Farm Workers (UFW). The UFW organized strikes against growers demanding better pay and improved working conditions. Through his leadership, hard work, and sacrifice, Chavez taught farm workers to fight for their rights through nonviolent protest, and, perhaps even more importantly, brought collective bargaining to these workers. After working more

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March 18, 2014

than 30 years improving the lives of farm workers, Cesar Chavez passed away on April 23, 1993.

Tonight, the City Council is asked to recognize March 31 as Cesar Chavez Day.

**V. FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

**VI. EXHIBITS**

1. Resolution No. 02-041. (pgs. 3-5)
2. Resolution No. 08-049. (pgs. 6-8)

Prepared by: Luchie S. Magante, Sr. Administrative Analyst

*Document 1*

TO: Rev02-24-2014

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Public Works
Community Development	Community Services

**Action taken by City Council**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Action \_\_\_\_\_

## **RESOLUTION 02-041**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (AFSCME), LOCAL 809, COUNCIL 36 (RESOLUTION NO. 00-109) TO ADD CESAR CHAVEZ DAY TO THE LIST OF CITY PAID HOLIDAYS CONTAINED IN ARTICLE IV, SECTION 4, SUBSECTION 4.1**

**WHEREAS**, on March 31, 1927, Cesar Estrada Chavez was born on a small farm near Yuma, Arizona; and

**WHEREAS**, Cesar Chavez founded the National Farm Workers Association in 1962, which later became the United Farm Workers of America (UFW), AFL-CIO, the first successful farmworkers' union in United States history; and

**WHEREAS**, under Cesar Chavez's tireless leadership, the UFW was the first to win collective bargaining for farmworkers; and

**WHEREAS**, at its peak in the 1980's, the UFW's collective bargaining agreements covered approximately 80,000 workers in California, Arizona and Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, Cesar Chavez led a successful five-year strike boycott that rallied millions of supporters to the UFW and forged a national support coalition of unions, church groups, students, minorities and consumers; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 23, 1993, Cesar Chavez passed away, leaving behind an enduring legacy of service and leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, Cesar Chavez's influence has made a lasting impact on farm labor issues and enabled millions of Latinos to achieve educational and political success;

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON HEREBY FINDS, DETERMINES AND RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** In honor of Cesar Chavez's great accomplishments, the City of Carson will recognize March 31<sup>st</sup> each year as "Cesar Chavez Day." City Hall offices will be closed and this day will be considered a City paid holiday for all full-time City employees.

Exhibit 1

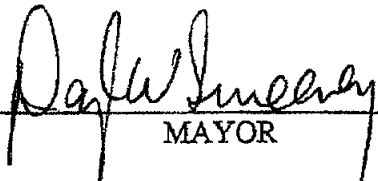
**Section 2.** Article IV, Section 4, Subsection 4.1 of the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and AFSCME, as adopted by Resolution No. 00-109, is hereby amended to read as follows:

4.1 The following days will be recognized for union employees:


- January 1 (New Year's Day)
- The third Monday in January (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)
- The third Monday in February (President's Day)
- March 31<sup>st</sup> (Cesar Chavez Day)
- The last Monday in May (Memorial Day)
- July 4 (Independence Day)
- The first Monday in September (Labor Day)
- November 11 (Veterans' Day)
- Thanksgiving Day (Thanksgiving Day)
- December 25 (Christmas)
- Every day proclaimed by the President, Governor or Mayor of this City as a public holiday.

**Section 3.** Except as herein amended, the MOU between the City and AFSCME, as adopted by Resolution No. 00-109, shall remain in full force and effect.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 19<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2002.**

  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
CITY CLERK

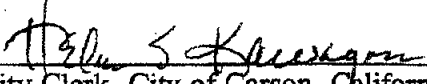
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
CITY ATTORNEY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA           )  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES    ) ss.  
CITY OF CARSON               )

I, Helen S. Kawagoe, City Clerk of the City of Carson, California, do hereby certify that the whole number of members of the City Council is five; that the foregoing resolution, being Resolution No. 02-041 was duly and regularly adopted by said Council at a regular meeting duly and regularly held on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2002 and that the same was passed and adopted by the following vote:

AYES:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	Mayor Sweeney, Frank, Calas, Ontal, and Dear
NOES:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	None
ABSTAIN:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	None
ABSENT:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	None

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk, City of Carson, California

RESOLUTION NO. 08-049

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA,  
SUPPORTING A CESAR E. CHAVEZ NATIONAL  
HOLIDAY

WHEREAS, Cesar E. Chavez was born March 31, 1927, on a small farm near Yuma, Arizona, and died on April 23, 1993; and

WHEREAS, numerous holidays, schools, parks, libraries, and other structures and events have been named after Cesar E. Chavez, in the United States and internationally, with many more planned; and,

WHEREAS, Cesar E. Chavez was a recipient of the Martin Luther Kings, Jr. Peace Prize during his lifetime and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom on August 8, 1994; and,

WHEREAS, Cesar E. Chavez was the grandson of a Mexican immigrant and settler and grew up working with migrant farm workers, picking grapes, melons, beans, and other crops at low wages and for long hours, during which time he developed a strong work ethic and respect for the farm workers his father called "the children of God"; and,

WHEREAS, at the age of 18, Cesar E. Chavez entered the United States Navy and served his country with distinction for two years; and,

WHEREAS, as early as 1949, Cesar E. Chavez committed himself to organizing farm workers to campaign for safe and fair working conditions, reasonable wages, decent housing and the outlawing of child labor; and,

WHEREAS, in 1962 Cesar E. Chavez founded the National Farm Workers Association, predecessor of the United Farm Workers of America, which brought hope to farm workers that they might one day realize the basic protections and workers' rights to which all Americans aspire; and,

WHEREAS, through his commitment to nonviolence, Cesar E. Chavez brought dignity and respect to the farm workers who organized themselves, and became an inspiration and a resource to other Americans and people engaged in human rights struggles throughout the world; and,

WHEREAS, Cesar E. Chavez was an advocate for nonviolence at a time when violence penetrated every level of our society; and

WHEREAS, Cesar E. Chavez and his family also dedicated themselves to the education of farm workers' children through migrant schools, many of whom graduated and worked as teachers, doctors or nurses or in other professional occupations; and

WHEREAS, the legacy of Cesar E. Chavez includes healthy work conditions that yield uncontaminated food for America's tables; and

WHEREAS, Cesar E. Chavez's influence extends far beyond agriculture and provides inspiration for those working to better human rights through his example of organizing voter registration drives in urban and farm areas, initiating complaints against mistreatment by police and welfare officials, and empowering workers to seek advancement in education and politics; and

WHEREAS, Cesar E. Chavez lived alongside his campesino brothers and sisters in humble surroundings; and

WHEREAS, upon his death in 1993, Cesar E. Chavez was laid to rest where he lived and worked for 23 years on the grounds of the headquarters of the United Farm Workers of America, known as Nuestra Senora de la Paz (Our Lady of Peace), located in the Tehachapi Mountains at Keene, California; and

WHEREAS, the United States should not cease its efforts to improve the conditions of farm workers, remembering the rallying cry of Cesar E. Chavez, "Si se puede!" (There is Hope!)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Carson, California recognizes the accomplishments and example of Cesar E. Chavez and urges,

- (1) the Congress to amend section 6103 of title 5, United States Code, or the President to issue an Executive order to establish a legal public holiday in honor of Cesar E. Chavez; and
- (2) the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and territories and possessions of the United States to observe the date established as Cesar E. Chavez Day as a public holiday; and
- (3) public elementary and secondary schools in the United States to enhance understanding of Cesar E. Chavez by providing classroom instruction on the life and work of Cesar E. Chavez.

**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2008.

*Jim Dear*

Mayor Jim Dear

ATTEST:

*Helen S. Kawagoe*  
City Clerk Helen S. Kawagoe

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

*W. Williams*  
City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA           )  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES    ) ss.  
CITY OF CARSON                )

I, Helen S. Kawagoe, City Clerk of the City of Carson, California, do hereby certify that the whole number of members of the City Council is five; that the foregoing resolution, being Resolution No. 08-049 was duly and regularly adopted by said Council at a regular meeting duly and regularly held on the 18th day of March, 2008, and that the same was passed and adopted by the following vote:

AYES:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	Mayor Dear, Williams, Gipson and Davis-Holmes
NOES:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	None
ABSTAIN:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	None
ABSENT:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	Santarina

*Helen S. Kawagoe*  
City Clerk Helen S. Kawagoe