

Attachment A to Agenda File No. 2021-0165

Recognizing October 2021 as Celebration of the Arts Month

WHEREAS, thousands of arts and cultural organizations, communities, and states across the country, as well as the White House and U.S. Congress, have celebrated the value and importance of arts and culture in the lives of Americans through recognizing the month of October as National Arts and Humanities Month for over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, the arts and humanities help communities across the nation explore their diverse history and culture, embodying and reflecting the wisdom, intellect, and imagination of humankind; and

WHEREAS, the arts and humanities enhance and enrich the lives of every American and play a unique role in our lives, our families, our communities, and our country; and

WHEREAS, involvement in, and appreciation of, the arts help to foster discipline, creativity, self-expression, and problem-solving skills, while also unifying communities and helping people develop greater cross-cultural understanding; and

WHEREAS, arts and cultural programming are an essential part of jump-starting the creative economy, which attracts visitors, promotes diversity, and enhances the quality of life for the region; and

WHEREAS, arts event attendees provide a vital income source for local businesses, as indicated by data reporting that every attendee spends over \$30 per person, per event-- beyond the cost of admission-- on items such as meals, parking, and lodging; and

WHEREAS, arts and cultural programming strengthen our San Diego economy as indicated by data reporting that total spending by the nonprofit arts and culture industry in San Diego County exceeds \$1 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, the arts and culture sector in the United States—nonprofit, commercial, education—is a \$919 billion industry supporting 5.2 million jobs, representing 4.3% of the nation's economy, and boasting a \$33 billion international trade surplus.

NOW, therefore, the Board of Port Commissioners and the staff of the San Diego Unified Port District do hereby continue the tradition--begun in 2016--to recognize October 2021 as Celebration of the Arts Month and call upon employees and other participants to learn about and join in the national celebration of arts and culture.

Dated this 12th day of October 2021
(All Commissioners to sign)