

Attachment A to Agenda File No. 2022-0268

Recognizing October 2022 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 by recognizing the month of October as National Arts and Humanities Month for three decades; 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, despite significant losses due to the coronavirus pandemic, the creative industries remain among the most vital sectors of the American economy, providing new opportunities for developing cities, creating jobs and economic activity within their own industry and across sectors, and making communities attractive to business development; and

WHEREAS, as reported in the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Creative Economy State Profiles Report, the arts and culture sector in the United States—nonprofit, commercial, education—is an \$877 billion industry supporting 4.6 million jobs, representing 4.2% of the nation’s economy, a larger share of the GDP than powerhouse sectors like agriculture, transportation, and utilities (2020); and

WHEREAS, as reported in the Americans for the Arts (AFTA) Arts Economic Prosperity (AEP5) study, arts and cultural programming strengthen our San Diego economy, and the total spending by the nonprofit arts and culture industry in San Diego County exceeds \$1 billion annually.

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 and recognize October 2022 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 11th day of October 2022
(All Commissioners to sign)