

A RESOLUTION HONORING SALVADOR T. ROMERO FOR SERVICE AS COUNCIL MEMBER FOR THE CITY OF HARRISONBURG

WHEREAS, Salvador Romero has been on the City Council since 2019, serving one term as Vice Mayor; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, Vice Mayor Romero executed the duties of an elected official with integrity, fairness, and effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, Sal has also served the community on numerous other boards and commissions such as the Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board, the JMU / City Liaison the Metropolitan Planning Organization (Policy), the Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance Board of Directors, the Finance Committee, Virginia First Cities, the Ordinance Advisory Committee, the Virginia Municipal League's Finance Committee (VML), the Planning Commission, the Central Shenandoah Planning Commission, the Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance Board of Directors, the EMU / City Liaison; and

WHEREAS, during Sal's term the Rocktown High School was bond funded and construction began and the Department of Parks and Recreation converted two tennis courts at Ralph Sampson Park into futsal courts; and

WHEREAS, during Sal's term the City completed a Comprehensive Housing Assessment and Market Study, which is now guiding the City's work on affordable housing; and,

WHERAS, Sal was instrumental in creating a permanent program for interpretation services in Spanish, Arabic, and Kurdish to be available upon request at City Council and Planning Commission meetings; and.

WHEREAS, during Sal's term the City began working with consultant Dr. Robin Stacia on the creation and implementation of an internal diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility and belonging program; and

WHEREAS, Sal was committed to protecting the health and wellness of people in our community during the pandemic, especially those who do not speak English, and spent countless hours creating Spanish videos to share safety tips; pushed to ensure resources such as masks, hand sanitizer and testing and vaccination clinics were held in locations and at times convenient to those in need; and even placed his own health and wellness in jeopardy by working closely with individuals needing interpretation at testing events; and

WHEREAS, Sal has been a valued colleague and friend to citizens, fellow elected officials, and staff and was on Council when the City conducted a classification and pay study in 2022; and,

WHEREAS, Sal's dedication and professionalism will be greatly missed by City employees, elected officials, and the citizens he served.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the members of the Harrisonburg City Council take great pride in recognizing and honoring the achievements and service of Sal Romero, thanking him for the dedication he has rendered and the contributions he has made in making the City a better place to live.

Adopted this 27th day of December 2022.	
	BY: Deanna R. Reed, Mayor
Attest:	
Pamela Ulmer, City Clerk	