

CELEBRATING DIWALI 2025

***WHEREAS**, over one billion celebrants worldwide reverently observe the festival of Diwali, the “Festival of Lights” symbolizing the victory of dharma, and good over evil is one of the most celebrated festivals of great significance to Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists; and*

***WHEREAS**, Diwali is a festival of lights during which celebrants light diyas, small oil lamps, place them around the home, and pray for knowledge, peace, and universal well-being; and*

***WHEREAS**, Diwali is a five-day festival and begins on October 18, 2025, and ends October 22, 2025, this year in accordance with the lunar calendar, and brings together families, friends, and communities here in the U.S. and around the globe in goodwill, peace, and a shared sense of renewal; and*

***WHEREAS**, the United States Congress officially passed unanimous resolutions since 2007 recognizing the religious and historical significance of Diwali and California has recently become the third U.S. state to designate Diwali as an official statewide holiday commencing January 1, 2026; and*

***WHEREAS**, Diwali is a time for dana (charitable giving) and seva (selfless service) by bringing light in the form of wisdom, knowledge, nourishment, and shelter in order to alleviate the tangible forms of suffering, such as hunger, disease, and poverty; and*

***WHEREAS**, celebrants renew their commitment to upholding values of truth, non-harming, and restraint through their thoughts, words, and actions.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of South San Francisco proclaims the Diwali 5-day celebration with the main day (Lakshmi Puja) on October 20, 2025, and calls upon our community to increase their awareness and understanding of the history of Diwali.*

Eddie Flores, Mayor

Mark Addiego, Vice Mayor

James Coleman, Councilmember

Mark Nagales, Councilmember

Buenafior Nicolas, Councilmember