## RECOGNITION OF OCTOBER AS NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

**WHEREAS**, Italian American Heritage Month is celebrated every year in October to honor and recognize the centuries of achievements, successes, and valuable contributions of Italian immigrants and Italian Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, from the early explorers to the 5.5 million working class immigrants who arrived in the United States around the beginning of the twentieth century, Italian Americans have helped shape and develop our nation; and

*WHEREAS*, currently there are over 26 million Americans of Italian descent residing in the United States making Italian Americans the fifth largest ethnic group in our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, bound by enduring values of faith and family, Italian Americans have flourished in all areas of our public and economic life while preserving their proud Italian traditions; and

**WHEREAS**, upon arrival in the United States, the Italian American community faced racial, social, and religious discrimination, yet Italian Americans have persevered with hope and hard work to reach for the American dream and helped build our great country; and

*WHEREAS*, as proud service members, they have also defended the liberty and integrity of the United States since the Revolutionary War; and

**WHEREAS**, all Americans take great pride in the accomplishments of individuals such as Enrico Fermi, who won the 1938 Nobel Prize in Physics; Paolo Soleri, the celebrated architect; and baseball hero Joe DiMaggio. They and other Italian-Americans throughout the United States have made extraordinary contributions to our life as a Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Italian Americans operate thriving businesses, teach our children, serve at all levels of government, and succeed in a myriad of occupations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of South San Francisco calls upon all Americans to learn more about the history of Italian Americans and honor the long history and vast contributions of Italian Americans.

Mark Addiego, Mayor

Mark Nagales, Vice Mayor

Buenaflor Nicolas, Councilmember

James Coleman, Councilmember

Eddie Flores, Councilmember