

**PROCLAMATION**  
**DESIGNATION OF JULY 2024 AS PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH**  
**San Diego Unified Port District**

WHEREAS, parks, recreation, and activation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including the San Diego Unified Port District; and

WHEREAS, our parks, recreation, and activation programs are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of the community and region; and

WHEREAS, following recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, over 500 use permits are issued annually at San Diego Unified Port District parks and venues; and

WHEREAS, the San Diego Unified Port District has world-class public spaces comprised of 22 parks, event venues in two cruise ship terminals and a community center, five fishing piers, four public boat launches and over 70 distinct works of art, along with countless miles of open space, inviting public plazas, and wandering walkways which, along with event partnership and sponsorship programs, increase the region's economic prosperity through increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS, parks, recreation, and activation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who live with mental or physical disabilities, and improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation areas are fundamental to the environmental well-being of our region; and

WHEREAS, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, mitigate flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS, the San Diego Unified Port District recognizes the critical benefits derived from parks, recreation, and activation resources.

NOW, therefore, the Board of Port Commissioners and the staff of the San Diego Unified Port District do hereby recognize July as Parks and Recreation Month.

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024  
(All Commissioners to sign)