



**RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF BERKELEY ZERO WASTE COMMISSION'S
50 YEARS OF GROUNDBREAKING ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP**

- WHEREAS,** for fifty years the Zero Waste Commission has been at the forefront of the zero waste and recycling revolution, creating a visionary path for Berkeley, and helping shape a global movement around sustainable waste management practices; and
- WHEREAS,** through its activities, policies, and community activism the Commission has fostered Berkeley's culture of waste reduction, reuse, and recycling; and
- WHEREAS,** the Berkeley City Council voted on April 18, 1972 to create a Solid Waste Management Commission charged with developing a plan for the reduction of solid waste; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1976 the Commission wrote its first Solid Waste Management Plan, leading to the City of Berkeley's adoption of a first-in-the-nation 50% recycling goal; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1983 the City took a bold step forward by building a new recycling center near Gilman Street and closing the Berkeley landfill on what is now Cesar Chavez Park; and
- WHEREAS,** the Commission played a key role in developing and implementing partnerships between Community Conservation Centers, The Ecology Center, Urban Ore, and the City of Berkeley, providing innovative, locally-based waste reduction services; and
- WHEREAS,** the Commission has continued to push the City to be a national and international leader on solid waste reduction, ending use of throw-away plastics, and recycling; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2005 the City Council unanimously adopted the Commission's recommendation to set a 2020 zero-waste goal and to rename the Commission as the Zero Waste Commission, to reflect this new commitment; and
- WHEREAS,** the Zero Waste Commission continues to play a vital role in groundbreaking policies to advance its mission through outstanding leadership and innovation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Jesse Arreguin, Mayor of Berkeley, do hereby declare the City's gratitude and recognition of

THE BERKELEY ZERO WASTE COMMISSION

for 50 years of visionary leadership, advancing the cause of waste reduction and environmental stewardship for Berkeley.

Jesse Arreguin
Mayor



December 13, 2022