

Resolution

Recognizing the Historic “Little Italy” District

IT IS HEREBY NOTED Italian roots run deep in Sacramento, Italian Americans were among the earliest pioneers of the city and have been settling here since the Gold Rush. They settled in many areas of the city including Southside and in Oak Park where more than half the residents were Italian up to World War II, with their largest concentration in Italian East Sacramento; and

WHEREAS, the Italian presence in East Sacramento represents over a century of Italian American history in the area. East Sacramento has been home to many Italian families and farmers who developed the area. Their stone farmhouses from the past, “The Stone Sisters” built by and lived in by the early Italians still stand out as they border East Portal Park; and

WHEREAS, here the Italians established a thriving “Little Italy” social community and business district. Folsom and J street became the main streets for the Italian businesses. Italian businesses, including grocery stores, nursery’s, restaurants, funeral home, and auto shop and others continue to operate along Folsom Blvd; and

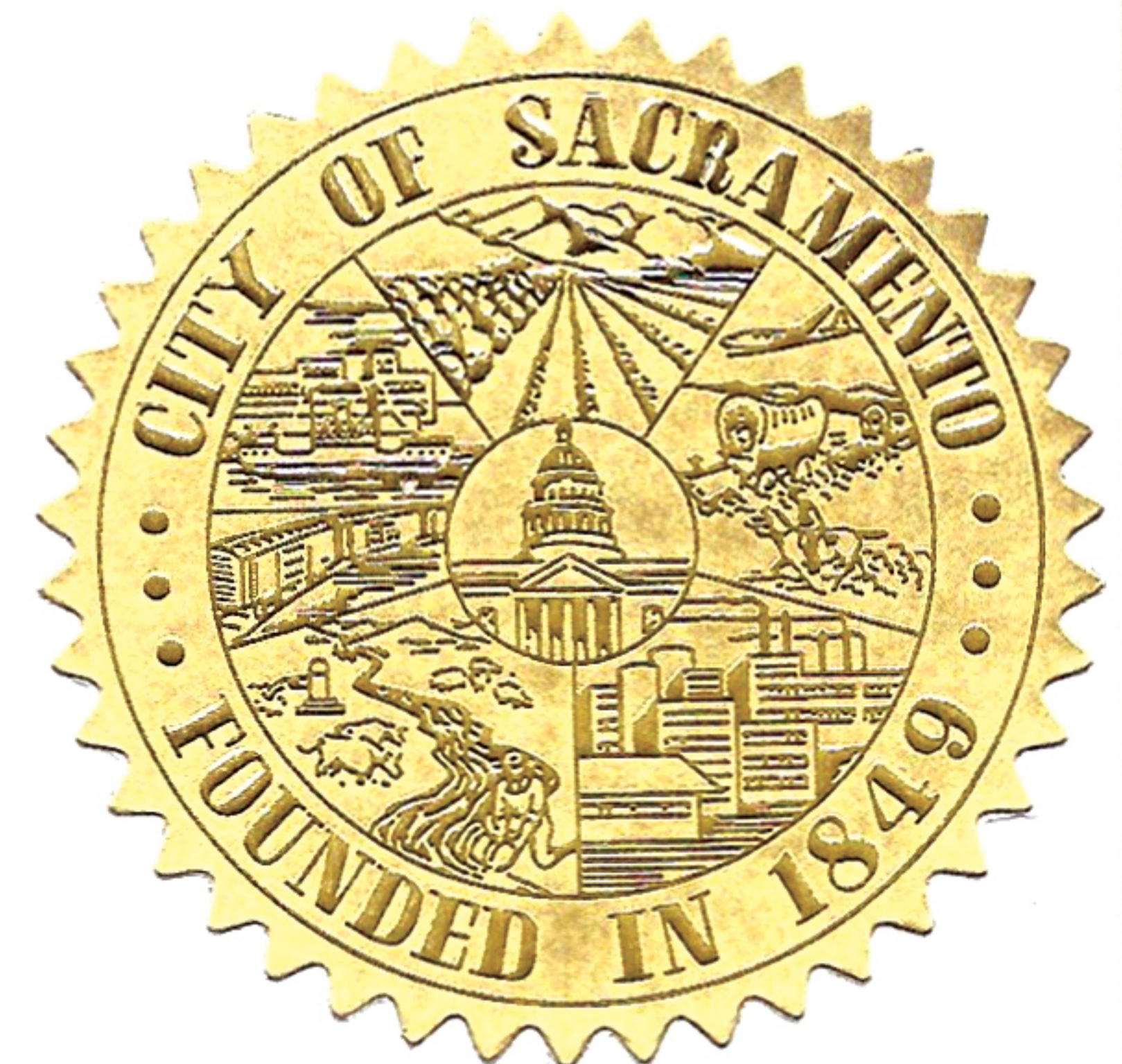
WHEREAS, the Italians created religious and community institutions like St Mary’s Church (in which Italian priests held masses in Italian) and community organizations such as the Italian Cultural Society, the Italian Catholic Federation, and the East Portal Bocce club which operates Bocce leagues in the neighborhood park; and

WHEREAS, the geographical heart of the “Little Italy” neighborhood is between 48th and 59th streets bounded by J Street and Folsom Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, generations of Italians have grown up and lived in the historic “Little Italy” and longtime residents and businesses play an integral role in the cultural and economic landscape of the area. The story of East Sacramento’s Little Italy neighborhood and the Italian people that made that story should be preserved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Sacramento that we do hereby recognize the area bounded by 48th and 59th streets and J Street and Folsom Boulevard as “Little Italy.”

ISSUED: September 21, 2021



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DARRELL STEINBERG, MAYOR

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