

Proclamation of the City of San Pablo

IN MEMORY OF

CHAOSARN S. CHAO

November 6, 1950 – April 5, 2017

For His Outstanding Work and Dedication to the Community

WHEREAS, Chaasarn S. Chao was born in Laos and later immigrated to the United States in 1978 when he was 28 years old;

WHEREAS, in order to aid Laotian refugees from Indo-China rebuild their lives in the Bay Area, Chaorsarn started the Lao Family Community Development (LFCD) in his three-bedroom apartment in Richmond, California;

WHEREAS, Chaosarn devoted himself to the betterment of the quality of life for refugees and the creation of LFCD allows assistance to the diverse refugee population with limited English as well as low-income U.S. born community members to achieve long-term financial and social self-sufficiency;

WHEREAS, LFCD encourages San Pablo community members to establish goals, believe in themselves, and become active, contributing members of society; LFCD delivers linguistically and culturally appropriate services using an integrated service model that addresses the needs of the entire family unit; and LFCD's goal is to help families achieve self-sufficiency in one generation;

WHEREAS, the Lao Family Community Development is a premier social service and community development non-profit agency now headquartered in Oakland, California with seven satellite office in Oakland, Sacramento and San Pablo that provides services in over 25 languages while serving 15,000 clients annually;

WHEREAS, Chaosarn was also the founding committee member of the National Coalition for the Asian Pacific American Community Development in Washington, DC; also the founder of the Iu-Mien American National Coalition and served on the Board of Directors for the East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation; he also served as a Commission Member for the City of Oakland Health and Human Services and President of the Lao-Mien Veterans Association;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Cecilia Valdez, Mayor of the City of San Pablo on behalf of the City Council, do hereby express our condolence to the Chao Family in their time of sorrow and acknowledge the many contributions that Chaosarn S. Chao made for the Lao Family Community Development and for the community. His memory will forever be a cornerstone in the lives of those he touched.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of San Pablo to be affixed this 17th day of April, 2017.

Cecilia Valdez, Mayor