CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

for

MIKE RICE

for His 20 Years of Service to the City of Arcata

WHEREAS, *the City of Arcata hired Mike Rice as a Recreation Supervisor in 2006 to lead various recreation programming and serve as the City's representative for hundreds of facility rentals and special events. In 2021, Mike was promoted to the Parks, Facilities and Natural Resources Supervisor where he continued to foster a collaborative and supportive work environment; and*

WHEREAS, *Mike built positive relationships with community members and user groups alike, supporting opportunities for people of all ages to play, connect, and learn through Arcata Recreation programming; and*

WHEREAS, *over the years, Mike has gone above and beyond to support Arcata events, user groups, and the community. Coming in after midnight to break down events at the Community Center, or assisting with parking for a cross-country race, Mike truly cares and tries his best to provide the best possible experience for every user group; and*

WHEREAS, *Mike has exemplified excellent leadership through clear communication, support for staff development and growth, and a well-timed joke to bring a group of people together; and*

WHEREAS, *Mike is known as an all-around nice person – thoughtful, generous, hard-working and very funny. He always brings a high level of care to those around him and with whom he works. Mike was also never afraid to get his hands dirty, many times volunteering himself to do jobs that are less desirable; and*

WHEREAS, *under Mike's tenure the City has greatly expanded recreational and quality of life resources such as numerous mountain bike trails within the Arcata Community Forest, improvements to Carlson Park and the Arcata Annie & Mary Trail while also growing the staffing levels within the Parks, Facilities and Natural Resources Division to ensure high-quality maintenance of City facilities, parks and open spaces; and*

WHEREAS, *Mike loves sweet treats and has been known to strategically wander around City Hall looking for candy, cookies, or donuts to share with his colleagues in the Parks Shop; and*

WHEREAS, *Mike has long served the best interests of the City, its residents and visitors with good cheer, dedication, and positivity. Mike will be deeply missed and his team-building skills and dedication to the City's recreational assets will ensure a high quality of life in Arcata for many generations to come.*

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCATA *hereby expresses its appreciation to Mike Rice for serving the people of Arcata for over 20 years. We wish him a retirement filled with fun bike rides and commemorate his retirement on October 30, 2026.*

Dated: November 4, 2026

Kimberley White
Mayor