

**City of Garden Grove**

**INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM**

To: Matthew J. Fertal  
From: Maria Stipe  
Dept: City Manager  
Dept: City Manager  
Subject: ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION  
DESIGNATING OCTOBER 26 OF EACH YEAR  
AS REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DAY  
Date: October 14, 2014

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this report is to provide a resolution for City Council consideration and adoption designating October 26 of each year as Republic of Vietnam Day.

BACKGROUND

The Vietnamese American community of Garden Grove was originally a community of Vietnamese refugees from the Republic of Vietnam fleeing their country after the Vietnam War in order to protect their lives and cultural heritage from being damaged or possibly destroyed. In the Vietnam War, which ended in April 1975, the Government of the Republic of Vietnam and its armed forces, people, elected and governmental officials struggled continuously and bravely to defend and protect the freedom, life, and property of the people, and to safeguard the Republic and new born democratic government. During the War, the United States and its allied armies also made enormous contributions and sacrifices in protecting freedom, democracy, life and property of the Vietnamese people and the Republic of Vietnam.

The struggle to defend and protect freedom, life and property and the enormous sacrifices and contributions of the army, people, elected and governmental officials and their families have been largely ignored or forgotten since the end of the Vietnam War in April 1975. Even in the United States, the sacrifices of more than 58,000 American soldiers and the contributions of about three million former servicemen and servicewomen as well as their families during the Vietnam War have not been recognized and honored properly.

DISCUSSION

An organized effort is presently underway to designate October 26 of each year, as Republic of Vietnam Day to honor the just cause of the Republic of Vietnam, and to commemorate the contributions and sacrifices of the army, people, elected and governmental officials of the Republic of Vietnam as well as American soldiers, Vietnam War veterans, allied armies and their families. October 26 was selected as an appropriate date because October 26, 1956 was the day the first Constitution of the Republic of Vietnam was proclaimed in Vietnam, initiating the very first time that a true

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democracy was established in the history of the Vietnamese people. It is also the first National Day in Vietnam history.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

No direct impact.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

- Adopt the attached resolution designating the date of October 26 of each year as the Republic of Vietnam Day to honor the just cause of the Republic of Vietnam and recognize the enormous sacrifices and contributions of its army, people, elected and governmental officials as well as the American soldiers, the Vietnam War Veterans, and the allied armies and their families.



MARIA STIPE  
Deputy City Manager

Attachment 1: Resolution

Recommended for Approval



Matthew J. Fertal  
City Manager

GARDEN GROVE CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDEN GROVE DESIGNATING OCTOBER 26 OF EACH YEAR AS REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DAY TO HONOR THE JUST CAUSE AND COMMEMORATE THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SACRIFICES OF THE ARMY, PEOPLE, ELECTED AND GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIALS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AS WELL AS AMERICAN SOLDIERS, VIETNAM WAR VETERANS, ALLIED ARMIES AND THEIR FAMILIES

WHEREAS, the Vietnamese American community of Garden Grove was originally a community of Vietnamese refugees consisting of the citizens of all backgrounds from the Republic of Vietnam fleeing their country after the Vietnam War, which was launched by the Vietnamese Communists from 1955 to 1975 and ended on April 30, 1975, in order to protect their lives and cultural heritage from being damaged or possibly destroyed;

WHEREAS, during the Vietnam War the Government of the Republic of Vietnam and its armed forces, people, elected, and governmental officials struggled continuously and bravely to defend and protect the freedom, lives, and property of the people, to safeguard the Republic and the new born democratic government created after the reestablishment of independence from French colonial rule;

WHEREAS, during the Vietnam War against the invasion of the Vietnamese Communists, the United States and its allied armies from Australia, South Korea, Thailand, New Zealand, and Philippines also made enormous contributions and sacrifices in protecting freedom, democracy, lives, and property of the Vietnamese people and the Republic of Vietnam;

WHEREAS, the Vietnamese American community with a population of nearly two million, consisting of many industrious and talented members, after four decades of integration has matured with numerous successes in all fields from culture to education, business and politics, science and technology, electronics and internet, trading and financing, court and military, and has contributed a significant effort to the maintaining of the development, and protecting the fabric of the American society at the local, state and federal government levels;

WHEREAS, the just cause of the struggle to defend and protect freedom, democracy, lives and property of the people and the Republic of Vietnam, and the enormous sacrifices and contributions of the army, people, elected and governmental officials and their families have been ignored or forgotten after the end of the Vietnam War in April 1975; and

WHEREAS, even in the United States, the sacrifices of more than 58,000 American soldiers and the contributions of about three million former servicemen and servicewomen as well as their families during the Vietnam War have not been recognized and honored properly.

NOW, THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDEN GROVE DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

The City Council of the City of Garden Grove designates the date of October 26 of each year, as the Republic of Vietnam Day to honor the just cause of the Republic of Vietnam, and to commemorate the contributions and sacrifices of the army, people, elected and governmental officials of the Republic of Vietnam as well as American soldiers, Vietnam War Veterans, allied armies, and their families.