

- WHEREAS, in October, communities and organizations around the nation pay tribute to the accomplishments of Americans with disabilities and the value and talent they add to our communities, recognizing the rich history of progress and rights fought for in receiving fair and equal treatment; and
- WHEREAS, 70 million adults in the United States live with a disability, equaling more than one in four adults, making up the largest and most diverse minority group within our population, and representing all abilities, ages, races, ethnicities, religions and socio-economic backgrounds; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood is proud to continue its ongoing work to create and enhance accessibility at its parks and community buildings, including facility improvements planned for the Weingart Senior Center, as well as offering reliable transit around the city through the DASH (Disabled, Accessible, Seniors, Handicapped) transit program with vehicles that are wheelchair accessible; and
- WHEREAS, since 1981, Lakewood has offered an Adaptive Recreation Program and partners with Special Olympics Southern California to provide a year-round athletic program for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities,

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Todd Rogers, Mayor of Lakewood, on behalf of the Lakewood City Council and the entire Lakewood community, do hereby declare October to be Disability Awareness Month in Lakewood and encourage residents to reaffirm their commitment to ensure equal opportunity for all citizens.

TODD/ROGERS MAYOR

