



# Proclamation

## COMMEMORATES THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE INVASION OF VIETNAM'S PARACEL ISLANDS

**WHEREAS**, the City of Westminster, California notes that Vietnam has exercised sovereignty over the Paracel Islands (Hoang Sa) since the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and occupied these islands until 1974; and

**WHEREAS**, the People's Republic of China (PRC) invaded the Paracels on January 19, 1974 with military force and in the ensuing battle 74 soldiers and sailors of the Republic of Vietnam gave their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, the PRC's seizure and continued occupation of the Paracels is a violation of the United Nations Charter, which prohibits the use of force and calls on all Members to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of other States; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. State Department has declared that the "PRC actions in asserting its expansive and unlawful South China Sea maritime claims undermine peace and security in the region."

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Chi Charlie Nguyen, Mayor of the City of Westminster, on behalf of Vice Mayor Kimberly Ho, and Council Members Amy Phan West, Carlos Manzo, and NamQuan Nguyen do hereby proclaim that the City of Westminster, California hereby commemorates the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the invasion of Vietnam's Paracel Islands, honors all Vietnamese who have died or been harmed in defense of Vietnam's sovereignty, and calls on China to respect international laws and end its occupation of the Paracel Islands.

Signed and Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024 by the City Council.

Chi Charlie Nguyen, Mayor

Kimberly Ho, Vice Mayor, District 3

Amy Phan West, Council Member, District 1

Carlos Manzo, Council Member, District 2

NamQuan Nguyen, Council Member, District 4