



CITY OF COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA

Proclamation

WHEREAS, in the last year, the COVID-19 pandemic, reminded us all of the importance of maintaining a clean and healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, the global community now faces extraordinary challenges, such as environmental degradation, global health issues, climate changes, and food and water shortages; and

WHEREAS, Earth Day on April 22 is the beginning of a new year for environmental stewardship commitments, including implementing sustainability efforts, and promoting emerging green technologies and innovative practices that can restore the world's ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, the theme for Earth Day 2021 is Restore Our Earth, it is up to each and every one of us to Restore Our Earth not just because we care about our natural world, but because we live on it and have an obligation to combat environmental degradation; and

WHEREAS, after Earth Day we look to Arbor Day on April 30, both events celebrate our natural environment; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day, which is observed on the last Friday in April, was first celebrated in 1872, and was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products; and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, Costa Mesa has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation, and

WHEREAS, Earth Day and Arbor Day are annual reminders of the constant need for environmental awareness, stewardship, commitments, and sustainability efforts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Stephens, Mayor of the City of Costa Mesa, do hereby proclaim Thursday, April 22nd, 2021 as **Earth Day** and Friday, April 30th, 2021 as **Arbor Day** and I strongly encourage all Costa Mesa residents to join with me in acknowledging these events and participate suitably in their observance.

DATED this 20th day of April, 2021.

John Stephens, Mayor of the City of Costa Mesa