

**RESOLUTION** RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Postal Service honors extraordinary individuals who have contributed to American society, history, culture, or environment through the issuance of commemorative postage stamps; and

WHEREAS, the oldest Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ+) organization in the U.S - the International Imperial Court System (IICS) - was founded in 1965, with more than 65 chapters in the U.S., Canada and Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the IICS and the National LGBTQ Task Force, a civil rights organization founded in 1973, have launched a campaign asking the U.S. Postal Service to issue stamps honoring LGBTQ+ icons and trailblazers Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, and José Julio Sarria; and

WHEREAS, Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera are iconic drag queens and transgender activists who were part of the 1969 Stonewall uprisings in New York City, becoming leaders in the Gay Liberation Movement; and

WHEREAS, Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera also helped found the group Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries, which offered housing to homeless and transgender youth, and opened the first LGBTQ+ youth shelter in North America, becoming the first trans women of color to lead an organization in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, José Julio Sarria, a proud Latino World War II veteran who lived in San Francisco, California, became the first openly LGBTQ+ candidate to run for public office in 1961; and

WHEREAS, José Julio Sarria is well known as the founder of the IICS; however, he is also a founder of two of the earliest homophile civil rights organizations in the U.S. - the League for Civil Education (1961) and the Society for Individual Rights (1963); and

WHEREAS, recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention finds that over 1.6 million adults (ages 18 and older) and youth (ages 13 to 17) identify as transgender in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, transgender and non-binary individuals face unprecedented challenges and inequities; and

WHEREAS, across the country, state lawmakers have proposed over 400 discriminatory bills attacking the LGBTQ+ community, and particularly trans youth, in such matters as healthcare

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access; schools and education; free speech and expression; access to accurate identification; weakening civil rights laws; and public accommodation; and

WHEREAS, the City's Transgender Advisory Council, as part of the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department, denounces these legislative attacks on their communities and wishes to recognize, uplift and commemorate transgender leaders by supporting the campaign to honor the extraordinary lives and accomplishments of Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, and José Julio Sarria:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-2024 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for the issuance of a commemorative U.S. Postage Stamp in honor of Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, and José Julio Sarria and URGES the Citizen Stamp Advisory Committee of the U.S. Postal Service to approve the issuance of such stamps.

PRESENTED BY: Traci Park  
TRACI PARK  
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY: Paul Kiehn

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