



# County of Sonoma

## State of California

Date: April 2, 2019

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ 4/5 Vote Required

### **Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Recognizing the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Film *Boulevard Nights***

**Whereas**, the iconic Warner Brothers film *Boulevard Nights* was released nationwide forty years ago, bringing attention to a new car style created by young Chicanos reflecting the color, playfulness, and pride of Mexican-American culture; and

**Whereas**, *Boulevard Nights* represented the first time the film industry brought a national focus to a disenfranchised segment of the Los Angeles population in East L.A. with a story about a fatherless Mexican-American boy seeking a sense of identity only to become seduced by the gangster lifestyle that surrounded him; and

**Whereas**, despite initial controversial and adversarial reactions, *Boulevard Nights* took residence in the hearts and minds of Chicano/Latino youth throughout the barrios of California and the country, providing a proud identity of hard-working, family-oriented “gente” (people) and thus sprang forth a cultural pride; and

**Whereas**, in the four decades since the film’s release, lowriding has shed the misplaced stigmas previously attached to it, and has become respected and recognized internationally as a legitimate art form; and

**Whereas**, lowriding has morphed into a global phenomenon with lowrider clubs in Australia, Brazil, Japan, and Russia, where members raise money for various causes illustrating that lowriding and community go hand in hand; and

**Whereas,** lowrider culture has been on display at The Peterson Museum in Beverly Hills, at the National Mall in Washington, D.C., and in 2017 the film was inducted into the National Film Registry, honored for its cultural and historical significance, and was recognized by the honorable California State Senator Richard Pan in the same year for its invaluable contribution to the Chicano community; and

**Whereas,** Sonoma State University, the Sonoma County Lowrider Council, and the Sonoma County Latino Peace Officers Association in conjunction with multiple community stakeholders collaborated on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary to celebrate the film and bring attention to the many gains made by the lowrider and Chicano/Latino community since the film's release; and

**Whereas,** today the Chicano/Latino community still faces xenophobia and racial environments but *Boulevard Nights* continues to acquire new fans as the lowrider community grows globally;

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors takes great pleasure in recognizing the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this iconic cinematic time capsule and recognizes and honors the film for its legacy and historical contributions to the people of this county.

**Be It Further Resolved**

**Supervisors:**

Gorin:

Zane:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Rabbitt:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

**So Ordered.**