

## Proclamation Celebrating Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month

- **WHEREAS,** Hispanic and Latino Americans make up 18.5% of the nation's population, making them the largest ethnic minority; and
- **WHEREAS,** Hispanic and Latino Americans enrich every community they are a part of through their vibrant and diverse cultures; and
- **WHEREAS,** Hispanic and Latino Americans have persevered and prospered through their hard work and commitment despite systemic and linguistic barriers; and
- WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino Americans make significant contributions through their leadership in government, protecting freedoms as part of the military, helping feed our community through agriculture, inspiring children as educators, helping fight against the COVID-19 pandemic as healthcare professionals, and advancing society through science and technology; and
- **WHEREAS**, Hispanic and Latino owned businesses contribute to Albemarle County's economic growth and job creation; and
- **WHEREAS,** the stories of Hispanic and Latino community members are woven into the fabric of our community and Hispanic and Latino history is our collective history; and
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that we, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, do hereby recognize September 15 – October 15, 2021 as the 53<sup>rd</sup> National Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month and recommit to building a diverse and inclusive society that works for all members of our community.

Signed this 15th day of September 2021.

Ned Gallaway, Chair Albemarle Board of County Supervisors