

**City of San Rafael  
In Recognition of  
Fire Prevention Week 2023**

- WHEREAS, Historically, one week every October is known as Fire Prevention Week and is intended to help raise awareness to the risks of various types of fires; and
- WHEREAS, this year, Fire Prevention Week will be held from Sunday October 8 to Saturday October 14; and
- WHEREAS, Fire Prevention Week was started by the National Fire Protection Association in 1922 to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871; and
- WHEREAS, the Great Chicago Fire burned between October 8<sup>th</sup> to October 10<sup>th</sup>. It killed over 300 residents and destroyed over 17,000 buildings with damages totaling \$4.484 billion in today's dollars; and
- WHEREAS, Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health observance in our country; and
- WHEREAS, Fire Prevention Week teaches children and adults how to stay safe in the event of fire; and
- WHEREAS, residential fires are the leading cause of injury and death and can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, race, orientation, income level, religion or background; and
- WHEREAS, this year's fire prevention theme is, *Cooking Safety Starts with You! Pay Attention to Fire Prevention*; with a focus on educating the public about simple and important measures that can be taken to reduce the risk of fires caused by cooking; and
- WHEREAS, unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires, fire injuries and fatalities, as such our elderly and vulnerable residents receive training and safety reminders before, during, and after Prevention Week, with additional emphasis on educational outreach on how to be Fire Safe within and outside the home.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kate Colin, Mayor of San Rafael, do hereby proclaim the week of October 8 through October 14, 2023 as Fire Prevention Week and in doing so, urge all residents and community members to take the steps, guidance, and measures necessary to prevent fires within the home.



Kate Colin  
Mayor