Esmeralda Soria Fresno City Councilmember District 1

MEDIA ADVISORY

City of Fresno Approves Resolution to Sponsor Free Swim Lessons for Children

June 17, 2021 <u>FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE</u> Terry Cox, Chief of Staff, District 1 559-500-9951 - <u>Terry.Cox@fresno.gov</u>

FRESNO, CA – At today's Fresno City Council meeting Councilmember Soria and Council President Chavez sponsored a resolution that would provide free swim lessons to City of Fresno children under the age of 18. Councilmembers Soria and Chavez also motioned to provide funding for the program.

The Fresno City Council approved of this resolution with a 7-0 vote.

Since the City of Fresno experiences summer temperatures of 100 degrees or higher, families often visit pools, rivers and lakes. It is essential that all families have access to swim lessons as the U.S. on average has 3,500 to 4,000 people drown per year. Learning to swim can reduce the risk of drowning by 88% for children ages one to four.

Children who qualify for Free and Reduced Lunch Programs under the State of California Department of Education income calculations shall be given priority to the Program. Swim lessons will only be offered at City of Fresno owned and city contracted pools with days and times varying based on the location.

Applications for free swim lessons will be available through the City of Fresno Parks and Recreation Department.

Please contact us for press opportunities.

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