

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

TO: City Council

FROM: Interim City Manager Alex Posada

BY: Interim Director of Recreation and Parks Angela Oslund

SUBJECT: Presentation - Winter 2024 Santa Maria Hometown Heroes

City Council will receive a presentation of the Winter 2024 Class of Honorees for the Hometown Heroes program recognizing Santa Maria residents who are actively serving in the military, veterans of the United States military, first responders, or essential workers by displaying a celebratory banner with the honoree's photograph and branch of service.

BACKGROUND:

The Santa Maria Hometown Heroes Military Banner Program was created by collaborative partners: Santa Maria American Legion, The Veterans of Foreign Wars #2521, and the City of Santa Maria Recreation and Parks Department. Cities across California have similar recognition programs which were used as models for the development of the City's own Santa Maria Style Hometown Heroes. This program recognizes active military and veterans of the United States military; first responders, essential workers, and those who serve our youth in the education field.

DISCUSSION:

In addition to the banner being displayed along south College Road in the Bradley Square area for a six-month period beginning in January 2024, each recipient or their family/sponsor will be provided with a City Council Certificate of Acknowledgment and Appreciation.

The deadline for nominations for the "Winter 2024 Class of Honorees" was November 30, 2023; recipients will be announced at the February 6th, City Council meeting.