

Proclamation

Vin Scully Day

September 23, 2016

WHEREAS, *Vin Scully* was 22 when he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers broadcast team, just a year after graduating from Fordham University where he played baseball for two seasons and broadcast university sporting events. Then-Dodgers announcer Red Barber, a legend in his own right, schooled the 22-year-old Scully in the importance of preparation and being yourself when calling a game and not letting your style be influenced by other announcers; and

WHEREAS, when *Vin Scully* first began broadcasting in 1950, the Dodgers had yet to win a single World Series, three years later at the age of 25, he became the youngest person to ever broadcast a World Series game; and

WHEREAS, in 1955 *Vin Scully* had his most memorable moment behind the microphone, as he called the Dodgers' first and only championship in Brooklyn; and

WHEREAS, *Vin Scully* was inducted into the Broadcaster's wing of the Baseball Hall of Fame, and into the Sports Broadcasting Hall of Fame in New York City, as well as, California's Sports Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, the Hall of Famer's 66 years of consecutive service with the Dodgers is the longest of any sports broadcaster with one team; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2001, the press box at Dodger Stadium was named in *Vin Scully's* honor; and

WHEREAS, in February 2016, the Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously to change the street leading to Dodger Stadium's main entrance from Elysian Park Avenue to *Vin Scully* Avenue; and

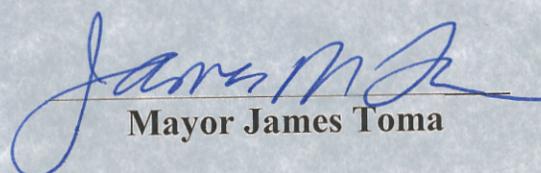
WHEREAS, it is *Vin Scully's* style that has made him one of the best –if not the best –sports broadcaster of all time. Chicago Tribune columnist Phil Rosenthal described the Scully story as about how “preparation, hard work, humility, unadorned precision –and knowing when it's best not to speak at all –can make you better.”; and

WHEREAS, On the air, *Vin Scully* is the voice of optimism. He is humorous, lyrical and even tender. His anecdotes are perfectly fitted to what's happening on the field. Even in defeat, his dulcet tones comfort the most sorrowful Dodger fan. In addition, to calling over 9,000 Major League baseball games, *Vin Scully* has broadcast 25 World Series and 12 All-Star Games; and

WHEREAS, As he nears his announced retirement at the end of this season, I urge all West Covina residents to take time to appreciate the treasure that is *Vin Scully* as not just an announcer but, as former baseball Commissioner "Bud" Selig put it, “the embodiment of the good will that our game inspires” and a reminder of why baseball is “forever the national pastime.”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James Toma, Mayor of the City of West Covina, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2016, as “*Vin Scully* Day” in the City of West Covina.

On this 20th day of September, 2016


Mayor James Toma

