

Proclamation

Earned Income Tax Credit/Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program

WHEREAS, Insufficient income contributes to many of the social and human service needs in our state; and,

WHEREAS, The Federal and State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) provides tax relief and income support to low-income working families; and,

WHEREAS, The EITC lifts millions of individuals out of poverty each year in the United States by supporting work and self-sufficiency while reducing the need for public assistance; and,

WHEREAS, Each year, the EITC helps approximately 3.2 million individuals in California and brings more than \$7.2 billion into California's economy; and,

WHEREAS, Every year 1 million families who qualify for EITC fail to apply for the credit representing a loss of \$1.8 billion in increased income for local communities; and,

WHEREAS, Increasing the use of EITC by the qualified citizens of the City of West Covina would help stimulate our local economy and increase access to millions of dollars in income; and,

WHEREAS, Every resident earning less than \$53,267 a year may qualify for \$6,242 in Federal EITC which may be used to lower their taxes or increase their tax refund; and

WHEREAS, Every resident earning less than \$13,870 a year may qualify for \$2,653 in State EITC which may be used to lower their taxes and increase their tax refund; and

WHEREAS, For every 1,000 residents who qualify and apply for EITC, it represents a potential \$6 million in economic stimulus for our community; and,

WHEREAS, Increasing EITC utilization represents a highly cost-effective economic development strategy; and,

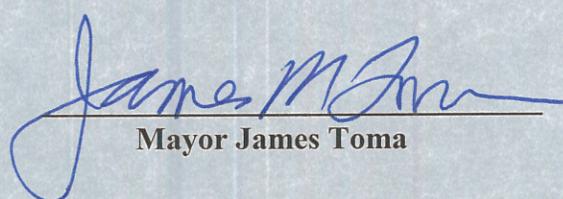
NOW, THEREFORE, I, James Toma, Mayor of the City of West Covina, proclaim the City of West Covina's support to identify and utilize existing and potential public/private partnerships to inform citizens about the availability of the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Programs.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the City Council of the City of West Covina does hereby support efforts to promote the availability of the EITC and VITA Programs.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the City of West Covina join the California State Board of Equalization, Franchise Tax Board, Internal Revenue Service and Jerome E. Horton, Chairman to the California State Board of Equalization in advocating the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program to qualified families and individuals.

On this 1st day of March, 2016




Mayor James Toma