

City of Grand Junction, State of Colorado

Proclamation

Whereas, in 2005, the City of Grand Junction recognized El Espino, El Salvador as its official Sister City; and

Whereas, since the inaugural trip in 2004 with students from Colorado Mesa University, more than 100 members of the Grand Junction community have traveled to El Espino and participated in cultural immersion with the people as well as the spay/neuter brigades led by the Foundation for Cultural Exchange; and

Whereas, many Grand Junction residents have played an integral role in the education of youth in El Espino who are dedicated to creating a better life for the people of El Salvador; and

Whereas, sponsors of the Foundation for the Cultural Exchange's student scholarship program support over 30 high school and university students each year and have contributed to helping more than 25 students earn their university degrees; and

Whereas, throughout the previous 21 years, this city through its community partnership has fostered long-term relationships between the people of Grand Junction and El Espino, thereby advancing peace, prosperity, and cultural understanding in both communities; and

Whereas, it is appropriate to recognize all the efforts of the Foundation for Cultural Exchange on this twenty-first anniversary and to express appreciation for the work they and other community members have done.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Laurel Lutz, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, do hereby proclaim November 15, 2026, as

"El Espino Day"

in the City of Grand Junction and congratulate the Foundation and all of the community members who have participated in cultural exchange with the people of El Espino.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 4th day of November 2026.

Laurel Lutz

Mayor