



Commendation

WHEREAS, the 2019 Railroader Marching Band is the first Sparks High School band to win first place since the beginning of the Nevada Band Championship. The Sierra Band Crusade (band championships) started in 1979 hosted by the University of Nevada. On several occasions the band has placed second but has never claimed a championship title; and

WHEREAS, this season included five competitions or shows for the band. They received first place at the Galena Performance of Champions; the Reed Performance Clinics; the Damonte Ranch Invitational; and the Sierra Band Crusade and second place at the Nevada Day Battle of the Bands; and

WHEREAS, two years ago the band was in jeopardy of no longer being a program at Sparks High School. The community rallied together and raised the \$45,000 as a one-time expense to staff a teacher for the program so we did not lose the band. Since then the band program has grown from 18 students to 45 in this year's class; and

WHEREAS, there are many reasons why it has grown and one of them is the leadership from Garrett Spalka the Director of Bands and Mariachi. He ensures the program members are productive, respectful, always well dressed and prepared for their next show. Their motto is "Better Every Day" and it is without doubt the students have lived this as they continue to push each other to achieve this goal; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD E. SMITH, Mayor of the City of Sparks, do hereby join with the City Council in commending the Sparks High School RailRoder Marching Band for their achievement of winning the Northern Nevada Band Championships.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Sparks, Nevada to be affixed this 25th day of November, 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald E. Smith".

RONALD E. SMITH, Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lisa Hunderman".

LISA HUNDERMAN, City Clerk

