

WHEREAS: The Honorable Padam Shri Nek Chand Saini is a world renown distinguished, self-taught artist of vision and creative genius who created a multi-acre public artwork known as the Rock Garden of Chandigarh, and,

WHEREAS: From 1958 to 1974 Mr. Chand gathered hundreds of tons of natural materials and discarded objects from which he molded artworks. Using his hands, simple tools and a vivid imagination he created twelve acres of paths and interlinking courtyards populated with hundreds of sculptures, and,

WHEREAS: Since the Garden was officially inaugurated and greatly expanded over twelve million people from all over the planet have felt joy and awe having walked through Nek Chand's world, and,

WHEREAS: Mr. Chand has exhibited in France, Spain, Russia, Germany, England and in the United States and was given the Grand Medaille de Vermeil award in Paris, and,

WHEREAS: Mr. Chand has created another monumental environment in the nation's capital with the encouragement of the Indian government and the help of United States trade unions, the private sector and numerous volunteers, and,

WHEREAS: Because now all people in the United States can share the wonder and whimsy of this world, status artist, and,

WHEREAS: The universal acknowledgement of Mr. Chand's accomplishments has elevated the understanding and acceptance of other self-taught individuals working in many mediums,

THEREFORE: The City Council of Los Angeles wishes to express its appreciation to Padam Shri Nek Chand Saini for his vision and dedication to the arts upon his visit to Los Angeles.