



# The City of Minneapolis

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## A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

**By Cano, Bender, Frey, Glidden, Goodman, Gordon, A. Johnson,  
B. Johnson, Palmisano, Quincy, Reich, Warsame, Yang**

### **Recognizing August 16, 2014, as Emiliano Zapata Day.**

**Whereas, Emiliano Zapata Salazar**, born to a mixed Indigenous Nahua and Spanish family in the State of Morelos, Mexico, in 1879, is recognized as a national hero of the Mexican Revolution 1910 to 1920; and

**Whereas**, Zapata captured the sympathy and support of the Mexican people and mobilized against the harsh dictator Porfirio Diaz after more than three decades of repression, severe poverty, and social injustices; and

**Whereas**, Zapata himself was a farmer who fought for social and agrarian land reform until he was assassinated in 1919; and

**Whereas**, Zapata's iconic image, including a huge black mustache and traditional *charro* style-- a broad sombrero, fitted pants with silver buttons, a scarf around his neck, and cartridge belts across his chest-- has become a potent symbol of social justice and his legacy continues to be acknowledged and celebrated in Mexico because of his bravery in defending the peasants and indigenous people; and

**Whereas**, Minneapolis has become home to many people from Morelos, especially the city of Axochiapan; and

**Whereas**, Cuernavaca, the Capitol of Morelos, became a sister city to Minneapolis in 2008; and

**Whereas**, Plaza Centenario on Lake Street and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue houses a bronze sculpture of Emiliano Zapata, which was a gift from the government of Morelos and is an important landmark for the Latino community that celebrates the relationship between Mexico and Minnesota generally and Minneapolis and Cuernavaca specifically; and

**Whereas**, the presence of Plaza Centenario on Lake Street in a highly concentrated Latino community in South Minneapolis brings awareness of what the revolution means to Mexican people and provides the opportunity for all residents to learn about the history and importance of Emiliano Zapata ; and

**Whereas**, Mercado Central, established in 1999, is a thriving Latino marketplace at the corner of Lake Street and Bloomington Avenue in Minneapolis and is based on a cooperative model of fostering small business development; and

**Whereas**, on Saturday, August 16, 2014, the Mexican Consulate and the cooperative merchants of Mercado Central will cohost a community-wide celebration of what would have been Emiliano Zapata's 135<sup>th</sup> birthday and the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of Mercado Central with a festival at Mercado Central and a procession to Plaza Centenario,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Minneapolis that August 16, 2014, shall be known as Emiliano Zapata Day.

Passed, August 15, 2014

Barbara Johnson, President of the Council

Approved: Betsy Hodges, Mayor

Attest: Casey Carl, City Clerk