

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. _____ C. M. S.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND
2005 NOV -3 PM 3:42

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER Nancy J. Nadel

Resolution Honoring the 50th Anniversary of Rosa Parks' Historic Refusal to Give up her Bus Seat and Declaring December 1st Rosa Parks Day in the City of Oakland

WHEREAS, Rosa Louise McCauley was born February 4, 1913 in Tuskegee, Alabama to James McCauley, a carpenter, and Leona McCauley, a school teacher; and

WHEREAS, at the age of 11 she enrolled in the Montgomery Industrial School for Girls and later at Alabama State Teachers College. At twenty, Rosa married a barber named Raymond Parks; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Parks, fifty years ago on December 1, 1955, refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger in Montgomery, Alabama, resulting in her arrest; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Parks' defiance triggered the famous Montgomery Bus Boycott and earned her the title Mother of the Civil Rights Movement; and

WHEREAS, the 382-day Boycott introduced the world to Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who was President of the Montgomery Improvement Association and the Boycott's spokesperson; and

WHEREAS, the federal district court on June 4, 1956, ruled bus segregation unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Christian Leadership Council later established an annual Rosa Parks Freedom Award in her honor and President Clinton presented Mrs. Parks with the Congressional Medal of Freedom in 1995; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Parks founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self-Development to offer guidance to young African-Americans; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Parks spent her last years in Detroit, where she died on October 24, 2005 at the age of 92; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Oakland City Council remembers Rosa Parks and the sacrifices that she made in advancing civil rights; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oakland City Council proclaims December 1st 2005 as Rosa Parks day in the City of Oakland and honors Rosa Parks by flying the flag of the United States of America at half mast on all City of Oakland properties and encourages its residents and businesses to take part in Rosa Parks Commemoration events on that day.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20 __

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, BRU NNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID AND