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Approved as to Form and Legality



City Attorney

# OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. 86846 C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember Kaplan

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ANALYZE POTENTIAL OPTIONS, COSTS, AND ASSOCIATED ISSUES FOR PROVIDING GENDER-NEUTRAL RESTROOMS IN CITY-OWNED BUILDINGS, STARTING WITH THE CITY HALL COMPLEX, AND TO REPORT BACK TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE BY OCTOBER 10, 2017 ON THE PROGRESS OF THIS EFFORT**

**WHEREAS**, restricting access to restrooms by gender creates problems of safety, bullying, fairness, and convenience; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2013 survey and report published by the Williams Institute at the UCLA School of Law found that gender-specific restrooms pose serious risks to transgender and gender non-conforming individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, due to bias and discrimination, 70 percent of survey respondents had reported being verbally harassed, denied access, or physically assaulted in public restrooms; and

**WHEREAS**, 27 percent of survey respondents experienced problems using restrooms at work that, in some cases, caused them to change jobs or leave their employer entirely; and

**WHEREAS**, 54 percent of survey respondents reported having some sort of physical problem from trying to avoid using public restrooms, such as dehydration, kidney infections, and urinary tract infections; and

**WHEREAS**, 58 percent of survey respondents reported that they have avoided going out in public due to a lack of safe public restroom facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, everyone in our community deserve access to safe, convenient, and unrestricted restroom access, which makes it possible to safely and equally participate in our government and civic institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, under California Assembly Bill 1732, the "Equal Restroom Access Act," single-occupancy restrooms in businesses, government buildings, and places of public accommodation must be designated as gender-neutral, and identified by "all gender" signage as of March 1, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, AB 1732 helps address the issues transgender and gender non-conforming people face when it comes to restroom access, but only where there currently exist single-occupancy restrooms; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important that workers and visitors to City Hall and other City-owned buildings have access to gender-neutral restrooms, in addition to the gender-specific restrooms on site; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** That the Oakland City Council directs the City Administrator to analyze potential options, costs, and associated issues for providing gender-neutral restrooms in City-owned buildings, starting with the City Hall complex; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City Administrator will report back to the Public Works Committee by October 10, 2017 on the progress of this effort.

**JUL 18 2017**

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_

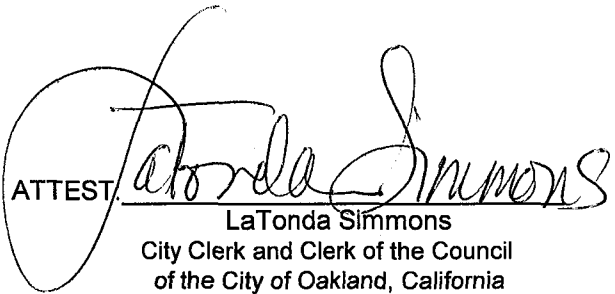
**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, AND PRESIDENT REID

NOES - 0

ABSENT - 0

ABSTENTION - 0

ATTEST   
LaTonda Simmons  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council  
of the City of Oakland, California