

2017 APR 19 AM 9:26

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER NOEL GALLO AND
COUNCILMEMBER VICE MAYOR ANNIE CAMPBELL WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING OAKLAND ENTREPRENEURS IN CELEBRATION OF OAKLAND SMALL BUSINESS WEEK, MAY 1-6, 2017

WHEREAS, the Small Business Administration reports that America's nearly 30 million small business owners are the engine of job creation and economic growth in this country; small businesses represent 99.7% of employer firms in the United States and generate more than 50% of the nation's non-farm gross domestic product, and generate 98% of firms exporting goods and 33% of exported goods value; and

WHEREAS, More than half of Americans either own or work for a small business, and they create about two out of every three new jobs in the U.S. each year. Overall small businesses have generated close to 65% of the net new jobs since 1995; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland was built and continues to be supported by the dreams of entrepreneurs and adventurers who dared to chart their own paths so that now the majority of Oakland's businesses are small businesses; over 90% of Oakland businesses are small businesses that employ 50 or fewer employees; and

WHEREAS, Oakland businesses have been recognized as innovative committed leaders at local, regional and national levels; and

WHEREAS, the City has worked diligently to build relationships and partnerships with a number of small business technical service providers such as the Alameda County Small Business Development Center, Main Street Launch, ICA Fund Good Jobs, Eastbay SCORE, Kiva Oakland, all of Oakland's Chambers' of Commerce, eleven business improvement districts and various merchant associations and over sixty other federal, state, regional and non-profit organizations to provide assistance to small businesses; and

WHEREAS, helping small businesses identify financing is a high priority for the City of Oakland, the City became the first city in the nation to be a Kiva Zip Trustee in 2013 to support small business owners, micro-enterprises and entrepreneurs; and in 2016 Oakland became an official Kiva City and dedicated funding to match Kiva loans to Oakland small businesses; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland has adopted an Open for Business Pledge to ensure that Oakland is an inviting city for small and large businesses, and through the Oakland Business Assistance Center and City Business Development Programs, creative lending programs, Local & Small Business Enterprise and Local & Small Certification Program and Local and Small Local Business participation requirements in contracting, the City continues to work on delivering effective services to the Oakland business community; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland City Council wishes to recognize Oakland small businesses for the key role that they play in driving Oakland's economy and contributing to the city's quality of life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council recognizes May 1-6, 2017 as Oakland Small Business Week; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council calls upon the residents of Oakland to patronize and demonstrate support of existing small businesses in Oakland; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council sincerely appreciates and extends a heartfelt thank you to all the small businesses located within City limits for their investment in Oakland.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

NOES -
ABSENT -
ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the
Council of the
City of Oakland, California