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Oakland City Attorney's Office

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS PATRICIA KERNIGHAN AND NANCY NADEL

### RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FREEDOM BUS PROJECT IN ITS CELEBRATION OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF YOUTH ARTS PARTICIPATION

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland is one of the most diverse cities in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland celebrates all diversity, including, but not limited to, ethnic, racial, gender, disability and sexual orientation because it makes us stronger as a community; and

**WHEREAS**, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama on December 1, 1955, in a knowing and deliberate act of civil disobedience; and

**WHEREAS**, the actions of one woman launched the 381-day Montgomery Bus Boycott, which ended on December 20, 1956 when the U.S. Supreme Court declared segregated buses unconstitutional; and

**WHEREAS**, the same act of civil disobedience ignited the African-American Civil Rights Movement, and, along with the tireless efforts of many Americans, resulted in passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965; and

**WHEREAS**, virtually all communities of color—be it African-American, Asian, Pacific Islander, Chicano/a/Latina/o, Native American—and women have been subjected to discrimination or denied the same opportunities as their white male counterparts; and

**WHEREAS**, Oakland residents of Japanese descent were taken from their homes and businesses during World War II and forced to choose between internment camps and military conscription, some never to be heard from again; and

**WHEREAS**, women still do not receive equal pay for equal work and are still being discriminated against for their ability to bear children; and

**WHEREAS**, people with disabilities have made substantial contributions to our community while being subjected to insidious discrimination and being denied equal access to education, employment, and physical access to restaurants, public buildings and public transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, the modern gay rights movement was ignited in 1969 with the Stonewall riots, and Oakland is proud to be home to many members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex or LGBTQQI community and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the labor movement, organized labor has successfully eradicated many health hazards from the workplace and protected their membership through collective-bargaining and the implementation of occupational safety laws; and

**WHEREAS**, the denial of access in education, employment, public services and legal rights has been shared by many communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District and the Alameda County Office of Education are collaborating on the Freedom Bus Project to celebrate the 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rosa Parks' historic ride and the East Bay's connection to all civil rights movements and equal rights for all; and

**WHEREAS**, the Freedom Bus Project seeks to expose an entirely new generation to civil rights through its youth arts competition, coinciding with California's Art IS Education Month in March 2011, to enable youth to further advance civil rights by gaining an appreciation of the past; now there be it.

**RESOLVED:** That the City of Oakland affirms its support for equal rights for all of its citizens, regardless of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, disability, or sexual orientation; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Oakland City Council calls on all citizens to embrace and celebrate all civil rights movements and not tolerate discrimination by public or private individuals or businesses; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City of Oakland supports the Freedom Bus Project, to be launched on December 1, 2010 — the 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rosa Parks' ride — and culminating with Art IS Education Month in March 2011; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City of Oakland will promote the Freedom Bus Project online and through electronic means, and be listed as an official supporter and endorser of the Project.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID AND PRESIDENT BRUNNER

NOES -  
ABSENT -  
ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
LATONDA SIMMONS  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of  
the City of Oakland, California