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Approved as to Form and Legality


Oakland City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. 82370 C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember _____

RESOLUTION POSTHUMOUSLY HONORING MR. WALTER "MACK" JOHNSON, SR. FOR THIRTY-FOUR (34) YEARS OF DEDICATED AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF OAKLAND

WHEREAS, Walter M. Johnson began his career with the City of Oakland in 1958 and provided over thirty-four (34) years of dedicated and distinguished service to the City of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, Walter M. Johnson became a resident of Oakland in 1945 at the age of 15 after arriving with his siblings by Greyhound Bus from Little Rock, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Walter M. Johnson served in the United States Air Force receiving an Honorable Discharge; and

WHEREAS, Walter M. Johnson raised "his boys", Frederick, Walter Jr., Albert, and Craig with Christian values, after the passing of their beloved mother Erma, while working three jobs at the County of Alameda, the United States Postal Service, and the City of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, Walter M. Johnson worked in the Parks and Recreation Department as a Gardener Helper and quickly moved up to Gardener Crew Leader; and

WHEREAS, Walter M. Johnson was responsible for manicuring of lawns and the maintenance of many of the garden islands under the BART tracks, as well as, the San Antonio, Allendale, Brookdale, Fruitvale, and Estuary Parks; and

WHEREAS, Walter M. Johnson predates the green uniforms and the current "corporation yard", because when he began workdays started by the Estuary near Lake Merritt; and at that time the City paid employees "monthly"; and

WHEREAS, Walter M. Johnson received many awards and accolades during his tenure with the City, e.g., the Safe Driver Commendation, impeccable Employee Efficiency Evaluation Reports, Employee of the Year Award from the Parks and Recreation Department, and the Distinguished Thirty Year Award, presented by former City Manager Henry Gardner; and

WHEREAS, Even in retirement Walter M. Johnson remained well known throughout the Parks and Recreation Department by the many young men and women he mentored, trained, coached and worked with; and

WHEREAS, Walter M. Johnson retired from the City of Oakland in 1992 and departed this life on September 8, 2009, and was remembered with a Celebration of Life Service on Monday, September 21, 2009; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the elected officials, staff, and citizens of Oakland hereby posthumously recognize Walter M. Johnson, Sr. for his outstanding service and many contributions to the City of Oakland, which exemplify excellence in the workplace; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland and the City Administrator posthumously extend their heartfelt thanks on behalf of the citizens of Oakland to Walter M. Johnson, Sr. for 34 years of dedicated service, hard work, and professionalism to the City of Oakland and join his colleagues, associates and family in saluting his achievements and offering their sincere appreciation. His service, knowledge and skills will live on through those whose lives he touched.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, NOV 3 2009

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - ~~BROOKS, DE LA FUENTE~~, KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, AND PRESIDENT BRUNNER - 6

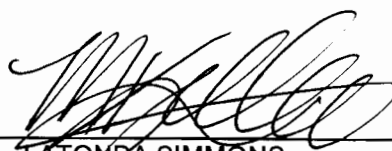
NOES - 0

ABSENT - Brooks - 1

ABSTENTION - 0

Excused - De la Fuente - 1

ATTEST:



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