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OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER NANCY NADEL

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 14, 2011 RESTORATIVE JUSTICE WEEK AND NOVEMBER 15, 2011 RESTORATIVE JUSTICE DAY IN THE CITY OF OAKLAND AND RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE LEADERS AND PRACTITIONERS THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF OAKLAND

WHEREAS, Restorative Justice Week has been celebrated in Canada since 1996 as the third week in November; and

WHEREAS, Restorative justice invites a fundamental shift in the way we think about and do justice; and

WHEREAS, in the last three decades, humanity has been making an historic shift from a justice as harming to a justice as healing; from a retributive justice to a restorative justice; and

WHEREAS, an emerging approach to justice rooted in indigenous cultures, restorative justice is reparative, inclusive, and balanced. It emphasizes Repairing harm, Inviting all affected to dialogue together to figure out how to do so, Giving equal attention to community safety, victim's needs, and offender accountability and growth; and

WHEREAS, Restorative Justice has diverse applications, and it may be applied to address conflict in families, schools, communities, workplace, the justice system, and to even to address mass social conflict; and

WHEREAS, though contemporary restorative justice began only about thirty years ago, the effectiveness of these practices in reducing violence, incarceration, recidivism, and suspensions and expulsions in schools is increasingly being documented; and

WHEREAS, in a City of Oakland funded Oakland Pubhc School Pilot study at Cole School, use of restorative justice resulted in no fights on campus all year, an over 75% reduction in suspensions and no expulsions; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Judge Gail Bereola, the Alameda County Juvenile Justice system is poised for transformation to a restorative system having completed and partially implemented their strategic plan; and

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WHEREAS, under the leadership of Oakland Unified School District Director Jumoke Hinton Hodge, the OUSD has adopted Restorative Justice as the model for discipline throughout the school district; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Oakland City Council calls upon all of its residents to envision how a restorative justice approach can be applied and implemented within existing systems. It is a challenge to the health care systems, educational systems, justice systems, correctional systems, and all other systems and/or levels of government, to be creative and innovative in looking at 'justice' through a restorative justice lens; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Oakland will diligently work to find funding to implement restorative justice in existing systems including improved police/community relations; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oakland City Council declares the 3rd week of November to be recognized this year and in future years as

“Restorative Justice Week” and “November 15, 2011”

to be Restorative Justice Day, and to use that time to educate ourselves and others about restorative justice and its applications and to recognize successful implementation in city systems.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 2011

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BRUNNER, BROOKS, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, SCHAAF and
PRESIDENT REID

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: _____
LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
Of the City of Oakland, California