

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 78066 = OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER Nadel 2003 SEP 18 PM 3:31



A RESOLUTION HONORING AMIT KOTHARI FOR HIS INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CITIZENS OF OAKLAND

WHEREAS, Amit Kothari, serving as the Transportation Services Division Manager since October 1999, provided distinguished, courteous, and highly professional service to the residents and businesses of Oakland, as well as the City Council and staff during his employment with the City of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kothari recently accepted the position of Deputy Director for the City of San Jose Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, as a Registered Professional Engineer and Oakland's chief traffic engineer during his four-year tenure, Mr. Kothari served as a technical resource to various departments, agencies, and City officials; and

WHEREAS, highlights of Mr. Kothari's distinguished service for the City of Oakland include:

- 1) Exercising negotiating skills and patience as he worked collaboratively with City associates, elected officials and community stakeholders on important capital improvement projects – including the Leona Quarry, Oakland Army Base, Alameda Point, and the 28-story office tower at Grand and Harrison.
- 2) Working tirelessly to improve traffic and pedestrian safety by bringing new technology to Oakland, including pedestrian countdown traffic signals, lighted crosswalks, lighted street signs at intersections, and interconnected demand-responsive traffic signals on major bus corridors.
- 3) Pursuing traffic calming and streetscape projects, including the City's Safe Routes to School program, to improve conditions for school children, seniors, persons with disabilities, and bicyclists.
- 4) Serving as acting Public Works Agency Assistant Director for nine months.
- 5) Instituting a variety of best-practices and management reforms to make the Transportation Services Division more team oriented and efficient, including "welcome cards" with photographs to introduce all new employees to their peers; organizing division-wide employee potlucks; seeking employee input to address budgetary cutbacks and organizational changes; involving staff in planning and running staff meetings, and encouraging staff to develop new skills through on-the-job training.

- 6) Presiding over the merger of traffic maintenance staff with Transportation Services Division that resulted in expedited responses to traffic maintenance requests.
- 7) Routinely giving more than 100% to the job; for example, for the Millsmont Certified Farmer's Market in District 6, he personally ensured the effectiveness of the traffic plans by coming to the Market opening day -- his day off -- to see that traffic moved smoothly; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kothari earned the respect and admiration of the City Council, as well as Oakland citizens, businesses, and City staff, who will miss his thoroughness, professionalism and kindness; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Mayor, City Council, and City Manager do hereby commend Amit Kothari on behalf of the staff and citizens of Oakland for his commitment to excellence and outstanding service and contributions to the Oakland community; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution suitably inscribed be presented to Mr. Kothari with the compliments of the Mayor, City Council, and City Manager as a token of their appreciation and high esteem, and with best wishes for future endeavors.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, SEP 30 2003 2003

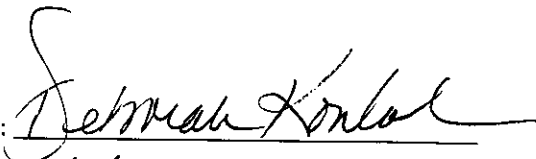
PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, QUAN, REID, WAN, AND
PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES- 0

ABSENT- 0

ABSTENTION - 0

Attest: 
for CEDA FLOYD
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California