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Oakland City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PATRICIA KERNIGHAN

**HONORING MCGUIRE & HESTER, RAJAPPAN & MEYER,
SASAKI ASSOCIATES, GOLDEN ASSOCIATES, AND THE
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY STAFF ON THE COMPLETION OF
THE LAKE MERRITT BOULEVARD/12TH STREET
RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, a Lake Merritt Boulevard in place of the 12th Street dam was proposed initially by the Coalition of Advocates for Lake Merritt, and incorporated into the Lake Merritt Master Plan in 2001; and

WHEREAS, with the passage of Measure DD, the Oakland Trust for Clean Water Safe Parks Bond in 2002, the City had funds to proceed with the re-design and re-construction of 12th Street at the south end of Lake Merritt; and

WHEREAS, the City selected Rajappan & Meyer, Sasaki Associates, and Golden Associates, consulting engineers and landscape designers, to work with the Public Works Agency's engineering staff, notably Jose Martinez, Project Coordinator, and Frank Awayan, Assistant Engineer, among many others, on the 12th Street Reconstruction Project; and

WHEREAS, the City selected the construction firm of McGuire & Hester, an Oakland firm, and its subcontractors, to build out the 12th Street Reconstruction Project; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Agency assigned Randy Mach to be the Project's Resident Engineer and Chris Lewis to be its Project Inspector; and

WHEREAS, additional grant funding was obtained by Joel Peter, Measure DD Program Manager; Lesley Estes, Watershed Program Supervisor; and Public Works Agency-Engineering staff to fund the new 12th Street bridge and wetlands; and

WHEREAS, in May 2010, ground broke on the 12th Street Reconstruction Project, a \$50 million project to undo the 58-year-old, two-block long 12th St freeway, the Frickstadt dam and a bridge over four culverts that restricted flow between Lake Merritt and the Lake Merritt Channel; and

WHEREAS, photographer Erik Niemann recorded the Oakland 12th Street Project from de-construction of the dam, freeway and culverts to the construction of the new 12th Street Boulevard and Amphitheater, and restoration of channel wetlands, which can be seen at <http://oakland12thstreetproject.blogspot.com>; and

WHEREAS, three years later, in February 2013, the last impediments were removed, allowing freely flowing waters between Lake Merritt and the Lake Merritt Channel under a new 145-foot clear span bridge; and

WHEREAS, in June 2013 the construction of the Lake Merritt Boulevard and Amphitheater with its 150-foot free-span pedestrian bridge was completed, and channel wetlands restored; and

WHEREAS, on Love Our Lake Day, June 9, 2013 the new Lake Merritt Boulevard and Amphitheater were dedicated before hundreds of joyful Oakland families who gathered to celebrate the creation of the beautiful park land overlooking the south end of Lake Merritt; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the Oakland City Council recognizes the outstanding work of the designers, engineers, construction firm and Public Works Agency staff who have beautifully transformed the south end of Lake Merritt with the creation of the Lake Merritt Boulevard and Amphitheater, the free-flowing channel, restored wetlands, and clear span pedestrian and vehicular bridges, creating a spectacular public space for Oaklanders to enjoy and a showpiece for the City of Oakland.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, KAPLAN, , SCHAAF,
REID AND PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS

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