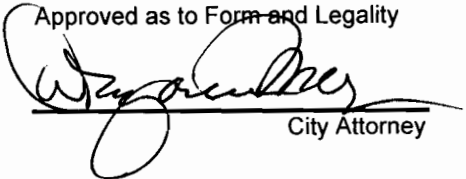


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Approved as to Form and Legality

City Attorney

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. 83582 C.M.S.

Introduced by Mayor Jean Quan, Council President Larry Reid and
Councilmember Jane Brunner

RESOLUTION TO COMMEMORATE THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OAKLAND-BERKELEY HILLS FIRE STORM

WHEREAS, on October 19, 1991 a small hillside fire began that reignited the next day and quickly turned into a violent and horrible fire storm; and

WHEREAS, emergency crews from Oakland, Berkeley, Piedmont and the East Bay Regional Parks District were joined by crews from the California Division of Forestry and other departments throughout the region and the state and all worked tirelessly to combat the fire; and

WHEREAS, after three days of desperate evacuations and heroic fire-fighting, the then largest urban fire in state history was over, having killed 25 people, destroyed 3,354 homes, and affected thousands of our neighbors; and

WHEREAS, the recovery from the fire was marked by unprecedented levels of study, cooperation, joint planning, personal resiliency and community spirit; and

WHEREAS, since 1991, Oakland has established a Wildfire Prevention Assessment District to help residents and the City manage vegetation across the wildland/urban interface, added a new fire station in the North Hills, installed high tech equipment in the hills to provide real-time monitoring of weather conditions in the Oakland hills, ensured that neighboring fire departments can work with our fire hydrants and communications systems; and

WHEREAS, since 1991, Oakland has established the Communities of Oakland Responding to Emergencies (CORE) program, a national community disaster preparedness program model that has trained more than 20,000 residents, community members and small businesses in disaster preparedness; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland has joined the Berkeley, El Cerrito/Kensington Fire District, Moraga Orinda Fire District, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, East Bay Municipal Utility District, East Bay Regional Park District, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the University of California, Berkeley in forming the Hills Emergency Forum; and

WHEREAS, out of the ashes of those three long days, both cities emerged with the determination to be ready to respond to tomorrow's challenges, no matter what they are; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council of the City of Oakland does hereby commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Oakland-Berkeley Hills firestorm of 1991, with honor for the lives and homes lost, and with commitment for a more fire-safe future.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, OCT 18 2011, 2011

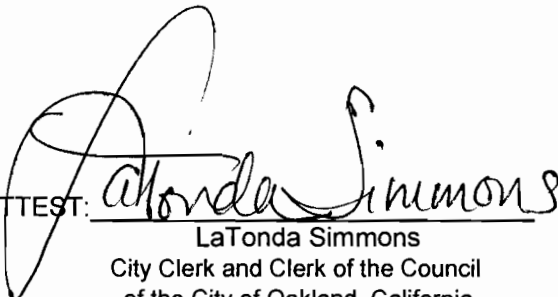
PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, BRUNNER, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, SCHAAF and PRESIDENT REID - 8

NOES - 0

ABSENT - 0

ABSTENTION - 0

ATTEST: 
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California