



City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY VICE MAYOR LARRY E. REID AND
COUNCILMEMBER SHENG THAO

**RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF ASSISTANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR
MARASKESHIA SMITH FOR HER COMMITMENT TO THE PEOPLE
OF OAKLAND AND RECOGNIZE HER FOR OUSTANDING SERVICE
TO THE CITY OF OAKLAND**

WHEREAS, Maraskeshia Smith join the City of Oakland after an incredible and historic tenure with the City of Cincinnati, serving as the first African American female Director of Public Services; and

WHEREAS, Maraskeshia served for the past two years as Assistant City Administrator with honor and distinction; and

WHEREAS, during Maraskeshia's time with the City of Oakland she led the operations of the Departments of Oakland Parks Recreations and Youth Development, Human Services, Contracts and Compliance, Housing and Community Development, Human Resources, Animal Services, and Planning and Buildings; and

WHEREAS, finding the workload of Assistant City Administrator insufficiently fulfilling, she additionally served for a time during her tenure as Interim Director of Oakland's Housing and Community Development Department; and

WHEREAS, Oakland is considered a medium-sized American city of 400,000 residents, yet governments in California and abroad point to the impact of our work and the magnitude and complexity of the issues we tackle every day, and

WHEREAS, through Maraskeshia's leadership, the City made great strides in advancing the strength, stability, and future of the City organization; and

WHEREAS, preferring a behind-the-scenes role making things happen to a flashy public persona, Maraskeshia's colleagues and team appreciated her quiet yet powerful leadership, humility, and resilience, which have made an indelible impact on The Town; and

WHEREAS, Maraskeshia brings out the best in people, embodying the City’s mission of treating people at all levels of the organization with “fairness, dignity, and respect;” and

WHEREAS, Maraskeshia’s sharp intellect and hard work ethic were eclipsed only by her passion for the city and her support for the City’s employees; and

WHEREAS, Maraskeshia is recognized as a leader in performance management and data-driven decision making for tracking efficiency and effectiveness of frontline operations, improving service-level performance, and enhancing customer service; and

WHEREAS, Maraskeshia spent countless, enjoyable hours of her life at the dais of Oakland City Council and Committee meetings and will greatly miss the opportunity to continue to do so; and

WHEREAS, Maraskeshia’s incredible leadership, management, dedication, sense of humor, and effectiveness will be greatly missed, though her work will leave an enduring, positive legacy that will long outlast her tenure; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council recognizes Maraskeshia’s significant contributions to the City of Oakland and declares May 8, 2020 Maraskeshia Smith Day.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, REID, TAYLOR,
THAO AND PRESIDENT KAPLAN

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

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

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