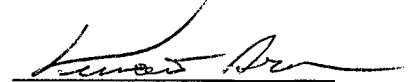


19 JUL -3 AM 9:40

Approved as to Form and Legality


City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS NOEL GALLO, COUNCILMEMBER
LYNETTE MCELHANEY, AND COUNCILMEMBER LOREN TAYLOR

RESOLUTION HONORING GAY PLAIR COBB WHO HAS BEEN A SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCATE FOR OVER 35 YEARS

WHEREAS, Gay Plair Cobb's commitment to social justice was honed during her student days where she was a participant in the historic freedom rides leading to the desegregation of lunch counters and other public facilities along the "Route 40" corridor; and

WHEREAS, as Chief Executive Officer of the Oakland Private Industry Council, Inc. (PIC), Gay Plair Cobb's has been at the forefront of the fight to provide a livable-wage and sustainable employment for Bay Area residents. At the helm of the PIC since 1985, Cobb's guidance and vision have allowed the PIC to provide resources for literally thousands of East Bay residents to secure employment; and

WHEREAS, through Gay Plair Cobb's leadership and partnership with many community groups, the Cypress-Mandela/Women in Skilled Trades Pre-apprenticeship Training Center was established in West Oakland after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. This program offers training, support and job placement in the construction trades for low-income women and men. The Center has been responsible for the entry of hundreds of new workers into fields where they have historically been underrepresented; and

WHEREAS, earlier in her career, Gay Plair Cobb was regional administrator in Atlanta and San Francisco for the Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor. The Bureau works to achieve employment equity for the nation's working women; and

WHEREAS, Gay Plair Cobb was a member of the Alameda County Board of Education from 1982-2006 (serving as board president several times during her tenure), working for system change, high educational achievement and equity for youth who are in the juvenile justice system; and

WHEREAS, Gay Plair Cobb served as a Trustee of The San Francisco Foundation for ten years (1998-2008), overseeing the Foundation’s substantial endowment. Cobb’s areas of focus were community and workforce development, human resources policies and promoting diversity and inclusion in the Foundation’s investment practices; and

WHEREAS, Gay Plair Cobb is a native of New York City. Gay Plair Cobb is a graduate of Queens College (City University of New York) and holds a MSW degree from the University of California, Berkeley. She is the recipient of numerous awards including those from the California Assembly, the California Senate, the National Council of Negro Women, OCCUR, the 13th Congressional District, Bay Area Black Expo, the Attitudinal Healing Connection, Tradeswomen, Inc., Carpenters Local 713, the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, and KQED. In 2018, she received the “Phenomenal Woman” award from the NAACP, Oakland Branch; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That The City of Oakland honors and thanks Gay Plair Cobb for her resilient advocacy and commitment to social justice throughout her 35 years of service.

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