

2016 FEB 19 PM 2:34

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING JENNIE GERARD, CHIEF OF STAFF TO COUNCILMEMBER ABEL GUILLÉN, FOR MORE THAN A DECADE OF OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE AND PASSIONATE DEDICATION TO THE CONSTITUENTS OF DISTRICT 2 AND THE CITY OF OAKLAND

WHEREAS, Jennie Gerard started her career with the City of Oakland more than 11 years ago as Chief of Staff to then-Councilmember Pat Kernighan; and as of January 2015 she joined the staff of District 2 Councilmember Abel Guillén also serving as Chief of Staff; and,

WHEREAS, Prior to her work with the City of Oakland, she served more than 20 years with the Trust for Public Land, where the programs she brought land trusts to the West and lead the launch of a quarter of the nation's 1,200 land trusts, protecting and preserving our pristine open land, and creating parks to ensure healthy, livable communities; and

WHEREAS, In her capacity as Chief of Staff, Jennie Gerard helped develop and implement Measure DD, Oakland's \$198 million Clean Water, Safe Parks Bond Measure of 2002, which funded the creation of the new and immediately loved four-acre park and amphitheater, the crown jewel of Oakland – the treasured Lake Merritt, among other popular transformations surrounding the lake; and

WHEREAS, Jennie Gerard co-founded the Lake Merritt Weed Warriors, an energetic group of citizen volunteers who have organized themselves to be trained by Public Works staff, and serve as environmental stewards for Lake Merritt, beautifying and maintaining its flora and gardens; and

WHEREAS, Jennie Gerard is a tireless and honorable public servant who has worked vigorously to ensure equitable access to City services for District 2 constituents, and was extremely involved in crime-reduction efforts in the Bella Vista, Cleveland Heights, Crocker Highlands, Trestle Glen and San Antonio neighborhoods, and, was an integral facilitator in the advancement of the forward-looking Lake Merritt Station Plan, and has been committed to the restoration and renovation of the Astro Park Tot Lot, Mandana Plaza and the Morcom Rose Garden; and

WHEREAS, During the tenure of past-Council President Pat Kernighan, Jennie Gerard championed many legislative accomplishments for the City of Oakland at the state and federal levels of government, critically analyzed policy proposals, and has served as a mentor and leader to other Council staff, and has an exceptional level of professionalism and grace when tackling the most difficult of challenges; and

WHEREAS, Jennie Gerard is retiring from the City of Oakland; however, she will remain a remarkable, passionate, caring resident of Oakland, and we are grateful for her contributions enhancing the livelihood of District 2 residents, and we wish her well as she embarks on the next chapter of many life adventures; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the City Council, on behalf of the entire City of Oakland, honors Jennie Gerard for her outstanding dedication and service to the constituents of District 2 and the City of Oakland.

LYNETTE GIBSON MCELHANEY
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

ABEL GUILLÉN- COUNCILMEMBER

ANNIE CAMPBELL WASHINGTON- VICE MAYOR

DESLEY BROOKS – COUNCILMEMBER

DAN KALB – COUNCILMEMBER

LARRY E. REID - PRESIDENT PRO TEM

NOEL GALLO –COUNCILMEMBER

REBECCA KAPLAN–COUNCILMEMBER

SABRINA LANDRETH - CITY ADMINISTRATOR

I CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A FULL, TRUE
AND CORRECT COPY OF A RESOLUTION PASSED BY
THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND,
CALIFORNIA ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY XX, 2016.

LATONDA SIMMONS - CITY CLERK