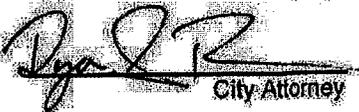


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City Attorney

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember _____

**RESOLUTION HONORING
CITY OF OAKLAND HOUSING DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
NORMA WILSON THOMPSON ON HER RETIREMENT
AFTER TEN YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO
THE CITY OF OAKLAND AND ITS CITIZENS**

WHEREAS, in 1967, shortly after graduating from high school, Norma W. Thompson moved from Fredericksburg, Virginia to Washington, D.C. where she thrived and lived until deciding to move to sunny, beautiful, exciting Oakland, California where she would start her career; and

WHEREAS, she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in English at University of California at Berkeley; and in 1991, her Masters of Public Administration at California State University East Bay. Between the two degrees, Ms. Thompson gained employment as an Executive Assistant with a Private Development and Property Management Company. This is where she discovered her love of the Affordable Housing field. Norma's first project in 1985 was to complete a Federal funding application to build what is now known as the E. E. Cleveland Manor. Affordable Housing has been her focus and passion ever since; and

WHEREAS, Norma is a mover and a shaker, between employment she operated her own business venture as a Housing Development Consultant to: City of Oakland, Community Assets Inc., Community Housing Development Corporation, Corporation for Supportive Housing, Hope Associates, Hope Housing Development Corporation, and Oakland Community Housing Inc. She was very instrumental in the completion of a successful funding application for the Matilda Cleveland Transitional Housing program site where she also served as an Administrative Director, hiring and training staff; and later would consult with the City of Oakland (1989) to convert Single Resident Occupancy (SRO) facilities to affordable transitional and permanent housing under supervision of Janet Howley, former City of Oakland Housing Development Manager; and

WHEREAS, her work in affordable housing has directly benefitted Oakland as far back as 1985, it took over twenty-one years during her career path to make her first appearance with the City of Oakland as a temporary service contract employee in the capacity of a Housing Development Coordinator for homeless services with the City's Community Housing Services Division, managing the Supportive Housing Programs. Her performance in this role was epic but short-lived from 2006-2008; and

WHEREAS, prior to her initial work with Oakland's Community Housing Services Division she held various classifications throughout the San Francisco/Oakland Bay Area, including Project Manager for Oakland Community Housing Inc (1993-1995), Program

Officer for Corporation for Supportive Housing (1995-1997), Development Specialist for San Francisco Redevelopment Agency (1997-2002), and Senior Development Project Manager for City of Richmond (1999-2003) after which she retired to take care of her mother, continuing operate as an affordable housing consultant (2002-2003). She was later offered the Director of Real Estate position with the Community Housing Development Corporation of North Richmond (2013-2006 & 2008-2010); and

WHEREAS, in May of 2010, the long-awaited arrival of this affordable housing guru and angel had finally come! The City of Oakland was elated and wise to secure Norma Wilson Thompson as the Housing Development Manager, leading a staff of up to 10 members, effectively and efficiently directing the charge of affordable housing in Oakland through the various programs managed by Housing Development Division: Affordable Housing Loan Program, Bond Measure KK Site Acquisition Program, Affordable Housing Health & Safety Rehabilitation program, Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing Preservation Program, the Predevelopment Loan Program, various First Time Homebuyer Programs; and

WHEREAS, her monumental professional accomplishments for affordable and supportive housing include: management and coordination of the City's Supportive Housing Programs serving 350 clients annually; Converting multiple Single Residency Occupancy (SRO) units into transitional and permanent housing after the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, and as Housing Development Manager with the City of Oakland, Ms. Thompson has overseen the development of 1440 units of affordable housing (completed and under construction) and 166 low and moderate income first-time homebuyers purchasing their first home which leveraged nearly \$33 million of private and other public financing.

WHEREAS, Norma has not only developed affordable housing, she has demonstrated her remarkable managerial skills in shaping and developing quality staff, encouraging innovation and alternate strategies to provide housing to the Oakland Community. She has established a sense of family with those she worked with directly, departmentally, and throughout the community. Ms. Thompson is well known and highly respected for her intellect, proficiency, and ability to be adopt and appropriately react no matter what the situation. She is the quintessential leader and team player; always seeking and pulling for the best in others; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson has served on Several Boards (Non-Profit Housing Association, Resources for Community Development, Jubilee West, and Hope Housing Development Corporation), she is also well versed and proficient in managing Federal, State, and local funding for supportive housing, affordable housing, public services. She has managed Community Development Block Grant, Housing Opportunities With AIDS, HOME Investments Partnerships, Low Income Housing Tax Credits, Proposition A, Measure KK, Section 8, Shelter + Care, Redevelopment and other grants and funding sources; and

WHEREAS, Norma looks forward to relaxing and enjoying her new home with dogs: Bella & Bam Bam, her niece Myisha Steward, and a host of family and friends that will stop by to fill the space with love, fun, and laughter. She is looking forward to enrolling in yoga

and other exercise classes with fellow retiree-friends, catching up on her murder mystery shows and "Game of Thrones". And even in retirement she is considering continuing her work in affordable housing as a Housing Development Consultant; and

WHEREAS, Norma retires on September 30, 2017 and leaves the City of Oakland to follow other passions, she unequivocally leaves a void in the hearts and memories of those who worked beside her as well as in the community for whom she worked; now, therefore be it;

RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland honors, commends, and extends sincere gratitude to Ms. Norma Wilson Thompson for 8 combined years of exceptional, devoted and innovative service to the City of Oakland; and be it:

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland celebrates Norma W. Thompson on this day for her dedication and commitment to the public, affordable housing developers, supportive housing programs, and inimitable contributions to the City of Oakland addressing the needs of affordable housing through housing development and direct assistance programs such as the City First Time Homebuyers Program.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, AND
PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

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