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2012 NOV 20 PM 2:18 **OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL**

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT LARRY E. REID

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING CARMEN MARTÍNEZ, DIRECTOR OF THE OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY, FOR TWELVE YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE AND CONGRATULATING HER ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

WHEREAS, Carmen Martinez has over 20 years of administrative experience in library service, and, as the Director of the Oakland Public Library, has overseen the delivery of library service to delight, inspire and inform the citizens of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, Carmen Martinez completed a Master of Library Science from California State University, Fullerton, a B.A. in Spanish Language and Literature from California State University, Hayward and a Certificate of Spanish Language Proficiency from the University of Barcelona, Spain; and

WHEREAS, Carmen Martinez reorganized the library department from a 15-member committee structure to the current modern business model, a tight Management Team that primarily focuses on public service; and

WHEREAS, Carmen Martinez completed a Master Facilities Plan that responded to the community's need for improved services through revitalized facilities and this vital document has become the blueprint for improving the library's aging, inadequate infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Carmen Martinez helped ensure the passage of Measure Q with over 71% of the voting public allowing branch libraries to open six days per week, hire more librarians, and become the "go to place" for public gatherings, computers, best sellers, DVDs, e-books, increased programming, and many new friends, volunteers, and supporters; and

WHEREAS, Carmen Martinez oversaw the opening of the African American Museum and Library at Oakland (AAMLO), creating a home for the Archives and collections of the African American Experience with emphasis on history of families and community leaders of the East Bay's African American Community in what is clearly the most beautiful Beaux-Arts library on the West Coast (a gift of Andrew Carnegie in 1903); and

WHEREAS, Carmen Martinez oversaw the opening of the César E. Chávez Branch in the Fruitvale neighborhood, a 15,000 square-foot facility on the second level of the Fruitvale Transit Village that offers the community ample space for the largest Spanish Language Collection in Northern California, as well as Story Time amphitheater seating, a generous meeting room, OPL's first ever Teen Zone designed in collaboration with young adults from the community,

computers and outstanding programs, a place relevant to a growing immigrant, artistic, and young community; and

WHEREAS, Carmen Martinez oversaw the opening of the unique 81st Avenue East Oakland Community Library, co-located with two “Small Schools” in a neighborhood that had never before enjoyed its own public library; and

WHEREAS, Carmen Martinez facilitated the relocation of the Piedmont Avenue Branch, after 80 years in the same location, to the Piedmont Avenue Elementary School campus; and

WHEREAS, Carmen Martinez designed and built the Main Library Teen Zone, a project that changed OPL staff culture as well as the way the library provides service to young adults, by appropriating 2,000 square feet of space from the second floor of the Main Library and turning it over to teens to design, use, and call their own; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: The Oakland City Council hereby commends Carmen Martinez, Director of the Oakland Public Library, for 12 years of exemplary and outstanding service to Oakland residents and conveys best wishes to Carmen Martinez, upon her retirement from City service; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution, suitably inscribed, shall be presented to Carmen Martinez with the compliments of City Council, and as a token of their appreciation and highest esteem.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 2012

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

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