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Approved as to Form and Legality



City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 89402 C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY VICE MAYOR KAPLAN

RESOLUTION URGING THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (WNBA) TO APPROVE OAKLAND AS THE HOME FOR A WNBA TEAM

WHEREAS, Oakland is ideally suited for a WNBA team because of its fervent and rooted fanbase, existing arena space, and shared core values with the WNBA; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Arena, a prospective WNBA team's venue, is easily accessible by both highway and public transportation, complete with a pedestrian bridge that allows fans direct access from the Coliseum BART station, and sits on 132 acres with 10,000 on-site parking spaces; and

WHEREAS, the first crowd filled the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum site on September 18, 1966, and since then it has been home to a rich history, hosting world champions and top athletes, and forging connections between sports teams and fans in Oakland and throughout the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, in July 2021, the Oakland Coliseum Authority unanimously and enthusiastically voted in favor of a non-binding term sheet to bring a WNBA team to Oakland, and the Oakland City Council followed suit, similarly voting to bring a WNBA team to Oakland in November 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Bay Area has a strong and organic fanbase for women's basketball, including fans of the University of California Berkeley and Stanford women's college basketball teams; and

WHEREAS, the Bay Area has the fourth-highest number of WNBA fans among U.S. markets without a WNBA team - 418,816 WNBA fans, higher than eight current markets with a WNBA team; and

WHEREAS, more than a half million Bay Area market adults play basketball, and the Bay Area ranks in the top 30 markets in household delivery for the WNBA Regular Season; and

WHEREAS, a WNBA team in Oakland could give women and girls all across the region a new set of role models and a new sense of identity; and

WHEREAS, Oakland is a community that values social justice, equality, and women's rights, these principles aligning with those of the WNBA; and

WHEREAS, Oakland is ready to move forward as a partner in advancing those goals as the home for a new WNBA team; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council strongly urges the WNBA to approve Oakland as the home for a WNBA Team.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, **SEP 20 2022**

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES – FIFE, GALLO, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, TAYLOR, THAO,
PRESIDENT FORTUNATO BAS - 8

NOES – 0

ABSENT – 0

ABSTENTION – 0

ATTEST:



ASHA REED

City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California