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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

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OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER LYNETTE GIBSON MCELHANEY

Resolution to Honor the Oakland Black Cowboy Association on the 40th Anniversary of the Oakland Black Cowboy Association Parade and Festival.

WHEREAS, Lonnie Scoggins Sr., and Booker Emory were two of the founding members of what is now known as the Oakland Black Cowboy Association and started the parade tradition in 1974 by riding their horses through West Oakland to the delight of the residents. Lonnie Scoggins, the first Grand Marshall, was an expert roper, horseman and was often introduced as "Oakland's best known black cowboy"; and

WHEREAS, the parade, which was originally sponsored by the Oakland Museum's Cultural and Ethnic Affairs Guild, then later by Blacks Unified to Motivate Progress (BUMP) and by the Black Cowboy Association, was originally held in West Oakland in 1974. The parade moved throughout the city in the 1980's and came back to West Oakland ; and

WHEREAS, Henry Linzie, a West Oakland resident and member of the OBCA Board of Director, has been a member since the organization was founded. Wilbert McAlister has served as president of the Oakland Black Cowboy Association since 2002, and leads thirty Black Cowboys and Cowgirls in the OBCA which includes three generations of riders - the children and grandchildren of the original founders and current members; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Oakland Black Cowboy Association's annual parade and festival is to educate the public about the role Black Cowboys have played in building and settling the Old West and share little known histories of the black cowboy, who according to some historians, represented up to 25% of all cowboys in the West after the Civil War.; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Black Cowboy Parade has been a time honored tradition in West Oakland for four decades, drawing together youth and elders to take part in the celebration of African American excellence in horsemanship and to commemorate Black history in the Western United States; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Black Cowboy Heritage Festival will feature an Art Exhibit and Educational Expo showcasing historical artifacts, film, books and pictures and information about African Americans with special presentations for students; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Black Cowboy Association ensures that youth are exposed to horsemanship year round by providing horseback rides to children at schools, churches and community events; and

WHEREAS, the 40th Anniversary Black Cowboy Parade and Heritage Festival will take place on Saturday, October 4, 2014 from 10:00am – 5:00pm at deFremery Park in West Oakland; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Oakland honors the Oakland Black Cowboy Association for hosting the 40th Anniversary Parade & Festival, for their educational efforts, and for their promotion of the historical influence of African Americans in the West.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, SCHAAF, AND PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES –
ABSENT –
ABSTENTION –

ATTEST:

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