

April 16, 2020

The Honorable Rebecca Kaplan, Council President
Members of the City Council
City Council of Oakland, California
1 Frank Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, California 94612

Dear President Kaplan and Councilmembers,

My name is Robert C. Bobb. I am a former City Manager of the City of Oakland, and a former City Administrator, Deputy Mayor, and Homeland Security Adviser of the District of Columbia. I am writing this letter on behalf of Edward D. Reiskin whom I believe would make an outstanding City Administrator for the City of Oakland.

In both Oakland and Washington, D.C. I had the distinct honor of appointing Mr. Reiskin to positions that required competency, public trust, and the ability to work with citizens no matter their race, sexual orientation, religion, etc. He brought those traits and more to his positions serving the city and her people.

Over my career in local government I have had the pleasure of seeing 20 of my former assistant administrators go on to become City Managers and City Administrators in some of the largest municipalities in the United States. In three other cases, they became County Executives. None of those individuals were more qualified than Mr. Reiskin, none smarter, and none more committed to public service.

I know his experience in Washington, D.C., a jurisdiction that has city, county, state, and federal responsibilities, more than prepared him for the City Administrator post. When I resigned my position in D.C. government, then Mayor Anthony "Tony" Williams appointed Mr. Reiskin Acting City Administrator, illustrating the enormous confidence and trust the city's highest leader had in Mr. Reiskin's management. (As an aside, he held three significant executive leadership positions during his tenure in Washington.)

Mr. Reiskin has worked successfully in key leadership and management positions in municipal governments across the nation. He returns to the City of Oakland after 20 years as a much more seasoned public servant for having worked in some of the United States' largest and most diverse local governments.

Therefore, I believe, the City Council would be wise to confirm Edward D. Reiskin as Oakland's next City Administrator.

Sincerely,



Robert C. Bobb
President & CEO
The Robert Bobb Group

cc: The Honorable Councilmember Dan Kalb, District 1
 The Honorable Councilmember Nikki Fortunato Bas, District 2
 The Honorable Councilmember Lynette Gibson McElhaney, District 3
 The Honorable Councilmember Sheng Thao, District 4
 The Honorable Councilmember Noel Gallo, District 5
 The Honorable Councilmember Loren Taylor, District 6
 The Honorable Councilmember Larry Reid, District 7