

Approved as to Form and Legality



City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER LOREN TAYLOR AND
COUNCILMEMBER FIFE

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SHOCK G (GREGORY EDWARD JACOBS) FOR HIS ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GLOBAL ARTS COMMUNITY PARTICULARLY IN OAKLAND AND FOR BRINGING GLOBAL ATTENTION TO OAKLAND ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT; AND DECLARING AUGUST 25, 2021 AS DIGITAL UNDERGROUND DAY IN THE CITY OF OAKLAND

WHEREAS, Gregory Edward Racker, also known as Gregory Edward Jacobs, Shock G, Humpty Hump, Edward Ellington Humphries III, MC Blowfish, Rackadelic, The Piano Man, Peanut Hakeem Anafu Washington, and co-founder of Digital Underground, has made significant contributions to Oakland's cultural and musical landscape and the Global Arts Community; and

WHEREAS, Shock G created the platinum hit and MTV video "The Humpty Dance," the hit single "Doowhutchyalike," and other classic hip-hop songs, including "Underwater Rimes," "The Way We Swing," "Freaks of the Industry," "No Nose Job," "Oregano Flow," "Wussup Wit' The Luv," and "Same Song," establishing a national identity for Oakland's then up-and-coming rap music scene; and

WHEREAS, Shock G showed great versatility as a bandleader, rapper, producer, and musician, whether playing Classical piano over funk loops, sampling Stevie Wonder and Jimi Hendrix, or making "a dollar out of fifteen cents"; and

WHEREAS, in addition to introducing comedic humor to the rap genre, Shock G maintained artistic integrity and a serious and thoughtful side that recognized music as a universal language; and

WHEREAS, Shock G continued the legacy of Parliament-Funkadelic and George Clinton as a "Son of the P" (Funk), bringing an innovative and musically adventurous approach to hip-hop, including the creation of highly conceptual themes, songs, and illustrations and the formation of numerous alter-egos unlike any other hip-hop artist who had come before; and

WHEREAS, Shock G continually helped to develop emerging musical talent, including now-legendary local artists such as Tupac Shakur, Raw Fusion (Money B and DJ Fuze), Saafir the Saucee Nomad, The Luniz, Mystic, Cleetis Mack, Pee Wee, and many others; and

WHEREAS, Shock G was one of six emcees to appear on the “Bay Area All Star Remix” of the Luniz’ “I Got 5 On It,” one of the most anthemic rap songs ever to come out of the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, Shock G’s creative vision and artistic brilliance was instrumental to Digital Underground’s success and an essential part of the historic legacy of Oakland hip-hop, which has achieved national and global significance, August 25th shall henceforth be known as “Digital Underground Day” in the City of Oakland, California, and Shock G shall be paid proper tribute on this day in 2021; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council recognizes Shock G (Gregory Edward Jacobs) for his achievements and contributions to the global arts community particularly in Oakland and for bringing global attention to Oakland arts and entertainment; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council declares August 25, 2021 as Digital Underground day in the City of Oakland.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____

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