Approved as to Form and Legality

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City Attorney’s Office

**OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.**

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER NOEL GALLO**

**ADOPT A RESOLUTION, AS PART OF NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH, HONORING HISPANIC/LATINX COMMUNITY LEADERS IN ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS FOR THEIR CONTINUAL YEAR-ROUND WORK**

**WHEREAS** Hispanic Heritage Week, began in 1968 under President Lyndon Johnson, was expanded to National Hispanic Heritage Month by President Ronald Reagan and enacted into law in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15, the day which represents the anniversary of independence for five Latin American countries; and

**WHEREAS** We acknowledge that the term Hispanic is not representative to all those who are from Latin America. Hispanic/Latinx are a mixture of a rich and diverse ethnic groups; and

**WHEREAS** The Bureau of the Census estimates the Hispanic/Latinx population living in Oakland as of 2018 is 27 percent; and

**WHEREAS** Hispanics/ Latinx are leaders in all aspects of our national life, from the Supreme court and halls of congress, members of the United States Armed Forces, educators, small business owners etc; and

**WHEREAS** In recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month we honor the following outstanding Hispanic/Latinx individuals and organizations, who through their groundbreaking work and innovation have promoted positive change for the city of Oakland and all its residents; and

**WHEREAS** Mayor Libby Schaaf is honoring Lili Gangas, the Chief Technology Community Officer at the Kapor Center. Her work is centered at the intersection of racial justice, technology, and action driven partnerships to tackle pressing social and economic inequities of underrepresented communities. Her areas of focus and interest include tech advocacy themes such as closing the Digital Divide, Future of Work(ers), Responsible Technology, and Ecosystem Building as they relate to new models with cross sector partners. Lili believes that it is critical that we help prepare and upskill communities of color for the future and encourage going beyond being consumers to also being creators and owners. She was a New America CA fellow focused on Tech for Good, was recognized as SF Business Times Most Influential Women in Business and SF Business Times 40 Under 40 and is an MBA lecturer at Mills College. Lili was recently a featured Salesforce Dreamforce and TEDxOakland speaker; and

Before coming to the Kapor Center, Lili was an Associate Principal at Accenture Technology Lab’s Open Innovation team, based out of Silicon Valley, focused on partnerships and programming to connect startups to Fortune 500 clients. She was also a founding member of the Innovation Services team at Booz Allen specializing in crowdsourcing, prize challenges, and open data solutions at the federal level. She is an advisor to tech focused nonprofits such as AI-4-All.org as well as community investing organizations such as the Unity Council and Pacific Community Ventures. Lili holds an MBA from New York University Stern School of Business, a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Southern California; and

**WHEREAS** The City Council hereby recognizes district 1 honoree Delores Tejada, Lead Organizer at East Bay Housing Organizations (EBHO) who passionately believes in the power of community to achieve equity, for their efforts to achieve housing justice and social equity through affordable housing advocacy, intersectionality, and disability justice. Born to immigrant parents, Mx. Tejada has been organizing since high school advocating for equitable education, youth access to transit, and disability rights. They were featured at the 2017 Oakland Women’s March, have led voter education campaigns around affordable housing funding, and have developed and facilitated an annual leadership academy for affordable housing advocates as part of their effort to build people power to achieve housing justice for all; and

**WHEREAS** District 2 is honoring Evangelina Lara, a parent leader who got involved in 2000 with the East Bay Asian Youth Center (EBAYC) where her children were participants in EBAYC’s After-School Learning programs at Roosevelt Middle School and Garfield Elementary School. Ms. Lara quickly became a leader of the Roosevelt Parent Action Committee, which organized to get new fences and lights installed around Roosevelt. Ms. Lara’s leadership in school and neighborhood safety was also demonstrated in the Garfield school community, where she organized many parents, particularly those whose first language was not English, to successfully advocate for pedestrian safety improvements, removal of portable classrooms, replacement of playground space, and the creation of the Garfield Family Resource Center. Ms. Lara was a founding resident leader of the Oak-to-Ninth Community Benefits Coalition, which led a multi-year effort to win 465 units of affordable housing at the Brooklyn Basin development, as well new pre-apprenticeship training and construction apprentice job placements. Ms. Lara was also a key leader in the neighborhood fight to close and repurpose the notorious National Lodge Motel on 17th Avenue and International Boulevard, which had become a hub for street-level sex-trafficking, including the sexual exploitation of minors. Residents, including Evangelina, worked with the Oakland City Attorney and District 2 City Councilmember to finally close the National Lodge in 2012. Ms. Lara is a resident of Oakland’s San Antonio neighborhood, where she raised her children and attended neighborhood schools. She is a native of Ameca, a small city in the State of Jalisco, Mexico; and

**WHEREAS** District 3 is proud to recognize Ministerio Internacional Marantha in West Oakland for years of service to not only Oakland but Mexico, Honduras and Ecuador, providing food, clothing, toys and other charitable services. District 3 is grateful and humbled by their dedication and care to our community; and

**WHEREAS** District 4 is honoring Diana Cristales, the Branch Director for the Anna Marie Whalen Branch of the Boys and Girls Club on 3300 High Street. She leads, directs, and manages the daily operations of the Clubhouse to deliver youth development programs and services. Ms. Cristales has an excellent track record in youth development starting in 1998 when she started with the Boys and Girls Club. She brings high energy, experience, professionalism, a “can-do” attitude, and a commitment to our youth to her work and Oakland; and

**WHEREAS** District 5 recognizes the tireless efforts of the many volunteers, including Jose Mendoza, Ruben Alvarado Gallardo, Jose Cervantes, Ricardo Vindiola De Haro, Amador Angel Luna, who turn out every weekend, rain or shine, to help to clean and beautify the Fruitvale and Glenview and San neighborhoods. With the cooperation of our Public Works department, volunteers pick up trash, mattresses and other furniture, tires and other debris, all of which has been dumped on our streets. The work is grueling and hard, but the reward is a cleaner and safer Oakland and a stronger community. We salute the work of our volunteers during Hispanic month and all throughout the year; and

**WHEREAS** District 6 is honoring El Tímpano - Spanish for “eardrum” - which is a local reporting lab launched in 2018 to inform, engage, and amplify the voices of Oakland’s Spanish and Mam-speaking communities. El Tímpano works in collaboration with Oakland residents and community partners to create empowering, two-way channels of information. Through innovative approaches, El Tímpano surfaces community members’ stories, questions, and concerns on local and national issues, and provides information relative to their needs. El Tímpano’s methods of civil engagement includes a community microphone that travels the streets, libraries, churches, and laundromats of East Oakland to gather residents’ stories on pressing issues, and an SMS-based reporting platform to provide timely information and facilitate conversation. El Tímpano is forging a new vision and a replicable model for inclusive journalism and civil engagement, including their work uplifting Oakland’s Reimagining Public Safety process in Spring 2021; and

**WHEREAS** District 7 is honoring Juan Toscano-Anderson who was born and raised in Deep East Oakland on 95th & A Street. Juan proudly represents where he grew up as #95 on the Golden State Warriors. Dedicated to uplifting children from his neighborhood, in August, his Journey to Achieve (JTA) Foundation, provided over 1,000 school supply filled backpacks, 500 meals, and 75 haircuts to students heading back to school. An inspiration for young people throughout Oakland, Juan beautifully embodies his Hispanic heritage on and off the court.

 Since January, the District 7 Spanish Translators & Interpreters Team have successfully led out on six community town halls. On behalf of the District, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Silvia Guzman, Hector Medina, Manuela Villatoro, Elsy Gomez, Giovanni Hernandez, Jessica Ramos, and Angelica Alejandre, whose volunteered expertise has allowed my office to engage with our Spanish-speaking residents. Not only is their commitment to the Hispanic community admirable, but it is a testament of their leadership; and

**WHEREAS** District 8 (At-Large) is honoring Bobbi Lopez, born in Mexico City, Mexico, and is a proud resident of District 1; She previously worked at La Raza Centro Legal supporting children in suspension/expulsion hearings and IEP hearings; Lopez is a founder of La Voz Latina, a program in San Francisco working with Latino immigrant families; She was a union representative at SEIU 1021 representing City of Oakland workers; She currently works on affordable housing locally; sits on the Executive Board of the state Democratic Party and on the state legislation committee; and lastly, Bobbi Lopez is a proud mama to two OUSD public school students; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** That the City of Oakland celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month to recognize the achievements and contributions of Oakland’s Hispanic American champions who have worked tirelessly for their communities and inspired others to achieve success through their selfless leadership.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, Gallo, Kalb, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND PRESIDENT KAPLAN

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS

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