



City of Palo Alto

City Council Staff Report

(ID # 9975)

Report Type: Special Orders of the Day Meeting Date: 1/7/2019

Summary Title: Adoption of a Resolution for CM Karen Holman

Title: Resolution of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Expressing Appreciation for Outstanding Public Service to Karen Holman as Mayor and Council Member

From: City Manager

Lead Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

- Attachment A: CM Holman Resolution



Resolution

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE TO KAREN HOLMAN AS MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER

WHEREAS, after serving for nine years on the Planning and Transportation Commission including two terms as Chairperson, Karen Holman was first elected to the City Council in 2009, re-elected in 2014 receiving the highest number of votes, and served as Mayor in 2015; and

WHEREAS, Karen Holman served as the City representative in numerous roles including on the Santa Clara Valley Water District Commission and Lower Peninsula Flood Control & Watershed Advisory Committee and provided regional leadership on issues facing the City; focusing on the City's land use, advocating for local control, and on transit policies such as collaboration with other South Bay cities leaders for fair allocation of the VTA Measure B funds; and

WHEREAS, because of her deep love for the City and the people of Palo Alto, Karen Holman worked tirelessly to manage changes in the City to be high quality, and designed to assure that new structures respected and enhanced their surrounding; and

WHEREAS, Karen Holman was concerned that the needs of neighborhoods were balanced with the opportunities for businesses and therefore gave particular attention to the vital role that retail and local services play in a well-balanced community including as a leading force for ground floor retail protection; and

WHEREAS, Karen Holman understood that health is a community issue and that has direct links to community and individual happiness, she was instrumental in successfully initiating and implementing Healthy City, Healthy Community as a Priority and as an on-going City focus; and

WHEREAS, Karen Holman was a champion of addressing issues resulting from rapid growth such as traffic, parking and affordable housing through establishment of an annual office cap and as a consistent advocate for a diverse community highlighted in preservation efforts of Buena Vista Mobile Home Park; and

WHEREAS, Karen Holman had an abiding interest in our community's history and ensuring that historical structures and valued common history was preserved as part of a prosperous city, she initiated numerous preservation and conservation incentives to help ensure ongoing vitality of our cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, Karen Holman gave special attention to the environment, emphasizing protection of Palo Alto's canopy, successfully advocating for its inclusion as Living Infrastructure in the Comprehensive Plan, its parks and open spaces including the dedication of 7.7 acres at Foothills Park, its sustainable water supplies and the impact of its waste disposal as a leading advocate for Zero Waste, and successfully initiating the Anti-Idling Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, Karen Holman took an informed, active part in all Council discussions while encouraging citizen participation and embraced citizen input by going into the community to engage directly with citizens including as a leader of the neighborhood Town Hall initiative; and

WHEREAS, Karen Holman led by example what it means to be a dedicated and principled leader, inspiring many residents to become more engaged with their local government by serving on boards and commissions and in elected positions and has mentored them to do so; and

WHEREAS, Karen Holman modeled decorum and respect for her colleagues, Council Procedures & Protocols, City institutions and the public; and

WHEREAS, after 18 years of service to the City, Karen will now serve the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Board with the same intelligence, commitment and heart.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Palo Alto hereby gratefully records its sincere thanks and appreciation to Karen Holman for meritorious service rendered and contributions made during her many years of public service to the Palo Alto community.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: January 7, 2019

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Clerk

Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Manager

City Attorney