



City of Palo Alto
City Council Staff Report

(ID # 9977)

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

Summary Title: Adoption of a Resolution for Mayor Liz Kniss

Title: Resolution of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Expressing Appreciation for Outstanding Public Service to Liz Kniss as Mayor

From: City Manager

Lead Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Resolution Expressing Appreciation for Outstanding Public Service to Liz Kniss as Mayor



Resolution

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE TO LIZ KNISS AS 2018 MAYOR

WHEREAS, Liz Kniss was first elected to the City Council in 2012 and served as Vice Mayor in 2014 and in 2017, and as Mayor in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Kniss, along with two colleagues, proposed a Comprehensive Housing Plan to support the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Housing goal of 300 housing units per year; and

WHEREAS, Liz has been an advocate for affordable housing, leading the way to secure approvals for the Wilton Court project, which will have approximately 60 units; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Kniss has been a strong proponent of the Healthy Cities/Healthy Communities program and, along with serving on the Board of the Santa Clara Family Healthy Plan Committee, her support resulted in the City of Palo Alto receiving Santa Clara County's Healthy City, Healthy Community Best Overall Award and the World Health Organization's Age Friendly City Award; and

WHEREAS, under Liz's leadership, the City approved the much-anticipated Highway 101 Bike/Pedestrian Bridge Project after many years of planning, and held a groundbreaking ceremony at the site along with many local and regional transportation officials; and

WHEREAS, during her time as Mayor, the City approved two major infrastructure projects including the Public Safety building and the California Avenue Garage and secured funding for the Infrastructure Plan through the passage of Measure E; and

WHEREAS, Liz worked tirelessly to ensure the best quality of life for Palo Alto residents and, under her guidance, the City significantly expanded its aquatics services through a public-private partnership with Team Sheeper, solidified a bright future for the Palo Alto Animal Shelter by facilitating a contract with Pets in Need, and coordinated the opening of the new and improved Baylands Golf Links; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Kniss advocated for refinements to the Downtown Residential Preferential Parking (RPP) Program, which provides special on-street parking privileges for residents; and

WHEREAS, Liz continued to foster the City's relationships with its sister cities by visiting Oaxaca, Mexico to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Albergue Infantil Josefino Orphanage, and Yangpu District, Shanghai, China, which resulted in its establishment as Palo Alto's newest Sister City, signaling a new partnership focused on innovation, shared learning and best practices; and

WHEREAS, under Liz's guidance, the City hired a new City Manager Ed Shikada who has been serving as the Assistant City Manager and Utilities General Manager since 2015, and helped ensure continued strong leadership and a smooth transition; and

WHEREAS, along with the rest of the City Council and City employees, Liz recognized ten years of outstanding leadership and contributions made by the outgoing City Manager James Keene, who provided vision and left a lasting legacy for the City of Palo Alto and the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, Liz's leadership has been essential not only to Palo Alto but to the entire region, where she has served as President of Bay Area Air Quality Management District, a member of the VTA Policy Advisory Committee, and as a Group 2 Representative to the VTA Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Palo Alto hereby commends the outstanding public service as Mayor for 2018 to Liz Kniss, and gratefully records both its appreciation, and the appreciation of the citizens and businesses of this community, for her service and commitment as the 2018 Palo Alto Mayor.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: January 7, 2019

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Clerk

Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Manager

City Attorney