



City of Palo Alto
City Council Staff Report

(ID # 9978)

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

Summary Title: Adoption of a Resolution for CM Greg Scharff

Title: Resolution of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Expressing Appreciation for Outstanding Public Service to H. Gregory Scharff as Mayor and Council Member

From: City Manager

Lead Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Resolution Expressing Appreciation for Outstanding Public Service to Gregory H. Scharff as Council Member



Resolution

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE TO H. GREGORY SCHARFF AS MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER

WHEREAS, Greg Scharff was first elected to the City Council in 2009 and has served as Vice Mayor in 2012 and 2016, and as Mayor in 2013 and 2017; and

WHEREAS, throughout his time on the City Council, Greg served on all Council Committees and was Chair on many of them; and

WHEREAS, Greg has also played a major role on many important regional boards and committees including the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA), the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority (SFJPA), and the Citizens Advisory Committee to the Caltrain Joint Powers Board; and

WHEREAS, Greg's leadership has been essential not only to the City of Palo Alto, but to the entire region, where he also served as President of the Cities Association of Santa Clara County and was recently elected Vice Chair of the prestigious Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG); and

WHEREAS, as a champion for a transit-rich environment, Greg was involved in the creation of the Infrastructure Blue Ribbon Commission (IBRC) which led to the development of today's transportation programs, he supported increased investment in the City's street maintenance program, he lent his vision to the creation of the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan as well as the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, contributed to the approval of the Highway 101 Bike/Pedestrian Bridge project, supported the continued funding of the Transportation Management Association (TMA), assisted with the successful expansion of the Residential Parking Permit Program (RPP), and pushed for the reinstatement of the Rail Committee; and

WHEREAS, Greg has been a proponent for the advancement of Palo Alto's environmental sustainability through the creation of the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan (S/CAP), renewable energy and zero waste plans as well as the efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which resulted in moving Palo Alto to a 100 percent carbon neutral electric utility, and during his service as Mayor, the City of Palo Alto was also recognized in front of hundreds of elected leaders from throughout California at this year's League of California Cities Annual Conference as the first city to achieve a Platinum Level Beacon Award for its efforts and leadership in addressing climate change; and

WHEREAS, Greg made important decisions regarding housing in Palo Alto, including facilitating an agreement between the Santa Clara County Housing Authority (SCCHA) and the owners of the Buena Vista Mobile Park to keep the park open, which has allowed over 400 low-income residents to remain in their homes, and the adoption of the new Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) and Junior Accessory Dwelling Unit (JADU) regulations; and

WHEREAS, Greg is a tireless advocate for infrastructure development funding, as demonstrated by his support for an increase in the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), which will allow the development of a world class Public Safety Building. He also shepherded the approval of two new mixed-use developments at 3001 and 3877 El Camino Real, which will provide the community with housing and incorporate new ground floor retail at both locations; and

WHEREAS, Greg continued to foster Palo Alto's important relationships with its Sister Cities. He traveled to Tsuchiura, Japan to run the local marathon and work with the City of Heidelberg, Germany on strengthening of our Smart City Partnership Agreement and the designation of Heidelberg as our seventh Sister City; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as Mayor, Greg successfully led the City of Palo Alto during a landmark year that included many important accomplishments such as the completion and approval of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and the City's Comprehensive Plan, which shapes the vision of the City's future for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, under Greg's leadership, the City of Palo had the honor of receiving Santa Clara County's top public health award, the Healthy City, Healthy Community Best Overall Award, which recognized the City for reducing secondhand smoke, its Safe Routes to School Program, and its work in creating healthier food and beverage environments; the City also received the Age Friendly City Award by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, as Mayor, Greg chaired efficient and productive meetings, allowing everyone an equal opportunity to participate while encouraging timely action, and his service on the Council exemplified his integrity, passion and commitment toward the betterment of this community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Palo Alto hereby commends Greg's outstanding public service and gratefully records both its appreciation, and the appreciation of the citizens and businesses of this community, for his meritorious service and commitment as a Palo Alto City Council Member and Mayor.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: JANUARY 7, 2019

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Clerk

Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Manager

City Attorney