RESOLUTION NO. 71-2003
Adopted May 13, 2003

COMMENDING AND EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO EDMUND W. ONG, ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING SUPERVISOR, AS THE RECIPIENT OF THE 2003 AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS THOMAS JEFFERSON AWARD FOR PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE, FOR HIS ARCHITECTURAL CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AT THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

BASIS FOR RESOLUTION

1. Edmund W. Ong, as the Chief of Architecture at the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency for the past twenty-seven years has had primary responsibility for the design review process for the Agency’s development program.

2. Mr. Ong had co-lead responsibility for the development of the public facilities on Central Blocks Two and Three in the Yerba Buena Center Redevelopment Project Area and managed the worldwide architectural search process that led to the selection of Fumihiko Maki, James Stewart Polshek and Romaldo Giurgola to design the major elements of Central Block Two and Adele Naude Santos for Central Block Three.

3. The American Institute of Architects’ Thomas Jefferson Award for Public Architecture was created to recognize excellence in architectural advocacy and achievement. It is conferred on public-sector architects who by their skill, professionalism, dedication, ability and commitment have consistently fostered quality in the built environment and have managed or produced quality design within government agencies.

4. In the letter nominating Edmund W. Ong for the Thomas Jefferson Award for Public Architecture, Sara Elizabeth Caples, AIA, states that Mr. Ong “is absolutely dedicated to helping each architect become sensitive to San Francisco as a unique urban environment with its own history and potentials. He has a very strong sense of the city being a place for all people to lead lives of dignity and delight.”

5. In nominating Mr. Ong, Ms. Caples added: “As is typical of public servants who perform to the highest standards of their calling, the rewards of Mr. Ong’s career are not so much personal as an on-going benefit to the citizens of his city.”

6. On May 7, 2003, the American Institute of Architects conferred Mr. Ong with the 2003 Thomas Jefferson Award for Public Architecture at its national convention.
in San Diego. In conferring the award, the American Institute of Architects found Mr. Ong responsible for commissioning and bringing to reality an extraordinary range of work that has helped to define San Francisco as one of America’s most livable and civilized cities.

RESOLUTION

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS RESOLVED that the Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco, on behalf of its Commissioners and employees, commend Edmund W. Ong for his outstanding accomplishments in advocating architectural excellence for Agency development projects, express the Agency’s appreciation for his ongoing contributions and congratulate him for being the recipient of the 2003 American Institute of Architects Thomas Jefferson Award for Public Architecture.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Bertha A. Ontiveros
Agency General Counsel