RESOLUTION NO. 1-2006

Adopted February 7, 2006

COMMENDING AND EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO
HARRIET STARKES
FOR HER 35 YEARS OF DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE
ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT
FROM THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

BASIS FOR RESOLUTION

1. Ms. Harriet Starkes, Assistant Development Specialist, retired from the Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco ("Agency") on December 31, 2005 after 35 years of dedicated service.

2. Ms. Starkes was hired by the Agency on November 9, 1970 as a Clerk Typist in the Residents and Business Services Division for Hunters Point and India Basin ("HP/IB"). She also worked briefly as a Telephone Operator in the HP/IB office.

3. In August 1972, Ms. Starkes was promoted to Senior Clerk Typist in the Administrative Office for the Yerba Buena Redevelopment Project Area. She worked there until February 1975 when she was reclassified as an Administrative Assistant I, a position she held for the next six years assisting with the Agency's work in the Western Addition Redevelopment Project Area A-2. While working in this position, Ms. Starkes began her long-term commitment to the Agency's Certificate of Preference Program for over 6,000 residential and businesses displaced by Agency actions. The task, which was done under strict deadlines, was accomplished primarily because of Ms. Starkes' hard work and dedication. In August 1974, she was commended for her work for issuing nearly 700 certificates in one month to displaced businesses.

4. Ms. Starkes continued her outstanding work in the Western Addition and Yerba Buena Redevelopment Project Areas when she was reclassified in February 1982 as an Administrative Assistant II, carrying out existing methods and procedures related to the Agency's Affirmative Action Program.

5. In July 1982, the Agency experienced staff reductions and Ms. Starkes exercised her seniority to return to her position as Senior Clerk Typist. Subsequently, in August 1983 she became the Acting Administrative Secretary in the Development Services and Real Estate Division and then became that Division's Administrative Secretary in September of that year.
6. During her work in the Development Services and Real Estate Division, Ms. Starkes was considered “unflappable” by her co-workers, juggling the competing requests of a staff of 14. She worked hard to assure that all deadlines were met and that the work product of the Division always met her high standards, earning her the nickname of “Sarge.”

7. After taking real estate classes to further her knowledge and job performance, Ms. Starkes was promoted in July 1989 to Executive Secretary II in the Development Services and Real Estate Division, a position she held for the next eight years.

8. In November 1997, Ms. Starkes was promoted to Assistant Development Specialist in the Agency’s Housing Division. Since then, she served in a crucial role providing information to hundreds of potential first-time homebuyers, administering hundreds of loans to first-time homebuyers, and continuing to serve as the administrator of the Certificate of Preference Program.

9. Ms. Starkes will be sincerely missed by her many friends and colleagues at the Agency. We all hope that Ms. Starkes will now enjoy more time with her outside interests that include her church, St. John Missionary Baptist Church, gardening, making shadow boxes, and singing.

RESOLUTION

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS RESOLVED that the Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco, on behalf of its past and present Commissioners, Executive Directors and employees, recognizes Ms. Harriet Starkes’ dedicated public service to the City and County of San Francisco and expresses appreciation for her many contributions and a sincere wish for her success and happiness in her retirement and all of her future endeavors.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
James B. Morales
Agency General Counsel