RESOLUTION NO. 147-2010

Adopted December 7, 2010

COMMENDING AND EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO OSCAR JAMES FOR 37 YEARS OF SERVICE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

BASIS FOR RESOLUTION

1. In August 1971, Oscar James was hired by the San Francisco Housing Authority ("Housing Authority") as a community liaison to work in various project areas in the City and County of San Francisco. His job included attending community meetings, sitting on various committees, and overseeing property repairs and upkeep responsibilities for the Housing Authority’s foremen and its staff.

2. Because of his diligence, exceptional work ethics, extraordinary personality, and unique public relations skills, Mr. James was hired by the Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco ("Agency") on May 1, 1973 as an employee in the Property Management Division. His job was to oversee property maintenance, repairs, and general upkeep responsibilities related to some of the Agency’s historic landmark buildings, such as the Muni Substation in the Western Addition neighborhood. Mr. James served the Agency in this capacity for the next 37 years.

3. In addition to his regular duties, Mr. James has been a tireless and compassionate voice for the Bayview Hunters Point community. Mr. James served on many committees, but he is most proud of his tenure on the Joint Housing Counsel which was, among other things, instrumental in developing the first Certificate of Preference Program and guidelines for relocation payments to displaced residents.

4. Mr. James’ other accomplishments included: (i) serving as chairperson of the Model Cities Commission, (ii) being a member of the Mayor’s Task Force for the closure of the Hunters Point Shipyard, and (iii) serving on the San Francisco Relocation and Appeals Commission, which had its origins in the Joint Housing Subcommittee.

5. Mr. James’ compassion also extended to serving his fellow co-workers. He was always available and happy to assist on special events with his wonderful culinary talents.

6. After 37 years of dedicated service to the Agency, Mr. James has now decided to retire and begin a new chapter in his life, which includes opening a restaurant in the Bayview. Agency staff will miss him greatly, but knows that we will continue
to see him advocating for his community and the citizens of the City and County of San Francisco at large at Agency Commission meetings, Board of Supervisors meetings, Citizens Advisory Committee meetings, and Project Area Committee meetings.

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 Mr. Oscar James' dedicated public service to the City and County of San Francisco, and does by this Resolution, expresses its appreciation for all his hard work and many contributions, and offers him a sincere wish for success and happiness in his retirement and in all his future endeavors.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]

James B. Morales
Agency General Counsel