

COUNCIL ROLL CALL

ITEM (S) _____ CALLED SPECIAL BY _____

☐ AMENDMENT ☐ SUBSTITUTE ☐ MOTION

☒ COMMENDATORY RESOLUTIONS

YAROSLOVSKY - LEE

☐ CONTINUED TO

☐ REFERRED TO

☐ CLOSED SESSION

BEGINNING:

END:

COMMENTS

YES NO

BLUMENFIELD

HARRIS-DAWSON

HERNANDEZ

HUTT

JURADO

LEE

McOSKER

NAZARIAN

PADILLA

PARK

PRICE

RAMAN

RODRIGUEZ

SOTO-MARTÍNEZ

YAROSLAVSKY

TOTALS

☒ UV

☐ ADOPTED

☐ FAILED

☐ FW

☐ ORDINANCE OVER TO

RESOLUTION

Ricardo Villacorta

WHEREAS, Ricardo Villacorta began his distinguished career with the City of Los Angeles in 1986 as a Materials Testing Technician with the General Services Department, advancing through the ranks to Materials Testing Engineering Assistant in 1987 and Materials Testing Engineering Associate in 1994, before ultimately becoming the Director of Materials Testing in 2022; and

WHEREAS, Ricardo Villacorta demonstrated exceptional expertise in his field by leading numerous materials testing advancements for the City of Los Angeles, including the Nuclear Gauge Program, Falling Weight Deflectometer for Pavement Evaluation and Structural Design, Rotary Asphalt Wheel Tester, Recycled Asphalt Concrete Mix Design for Municipal Asphalt Plants, and Rheological Testing of Asphalt Binder with the Dynamic Shear Rheometer; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles General Services Department Standards Division became the first agency in Southern California to be fully certified by the AMRL (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Materials Reference Laboratory) in the use of the Superpave System, following Ricardo Villacorta's pioneering implementation of Superpave technology; and

WHEREAS, Ricardo Villacorta further demonstrated his professional excellence by managing the comprehensive testing support program for the City of Los Angeles Street Damage Restoration Fee, a project executed in collaboration with Professor Mohamed Y. Shahin, Ph.D., a prominent figure in the industry responsible for developing the globally utilized Pavement Condition Index (PCI), thereby ensuring the integrity and quality of the City's public infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, as the recipient of the Mayor's Award for the 2004 Annual Academic Conference of the China Highway Engineering Committee, Ricardo Villacorta's efforts facilitated the free exchange of research and fostered a spirit of friendship between our two nations; and

WHEREAS, Ricardo Villacorta's 2006 research study, "Assessing Impacts of Overweight Buses on City of Los Angeles Street Pavements," aided the Department of General Services in receiving a Quality and Productivity Award from the City of Los Angeles in 2006-2007; and

WHEREAS, Ricardo Villacorta has contributed significantly to ensuring the longevity of City infrastructure through the Strategic Highway Research Program, Marshall and Superpave Mix Design, the development of public street networks and airports across domestic and international municipalities, and numerous workshops and seminars delivered at academic institutions and government agencies; and

WHEREAS, Ricardo Villacorta was the recipient of the 2015 American Society of Civil Engineers Award for Outstanding Transportation Project of the Year for the Wilshire Bus Rapid Transit and Wilshire Middle Lanes – Western Avenue to San Vicente Boulevard project; and

WHEREAS, possessing a wealth of knowledge on materials testing practices, Ricardo Villacorta became a vital asset to projects led by the Mayor's Office, Public Works Bureaus, and Proprietary Departments by consistently sharing his expertise and recommendations, regardless of project constraints; and

WHEREAS, Ricardo Villacorta guided and nurtured his GSD family, working diligently to meet departmental goals and training his team to ensure that material testing operations could withstand both expected and unexpected challenges; and

WHEREAS, the retirement of Ricardo Villacorta leaves a legacy in the Department of General Services consisting of his allegiance to excellent work, dedication to both Civil Service and Godly Service and will undoubtedly carry on throughout the many people he has worked alongside with; and

WHEREAS, as Ricardo Villacorta enters a well-earned retirement after a distinguished City career, his co-workers and colleagues extend their farewells with deep respect and gratitude, wishing him a retirement filled with health, happiness, and time with family and friends:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT by the adoption of this resolution, the Los Angeles City Council hereby commends and expresses its appreciation to Ricardo Villacorta for 39 years of dedicated and exemplary service solely within the Department of General Services and wishes him well in his retirement and all future endeavors.

PRESENTED BY: _____


BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY: _____



ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Blair Miller is retiring after over 10 years of distinguished public service with the City of Los Angeles and several decades of real estate development and planning; and

WHEREAS, since beginning her career with the City of Los Angeles in January 2016 as a Principal Project Coordinator with the Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO) in the Asset Management Group, she has played an instrumental role in implementing affordable housing policies and the development of City-owned real estate; and

WHEREAS, as a Principal Project Coordinator under the leadership of CAO's Miguel Santana and Richard Llewellyn, A CAO Yolanda Chavez, and Chief Jacqueline Wagner, she was instrumental in the creation of the Affordable Housing Opportunity Sites Program, which identifies City-owned properties for use as affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, Blair authored the CAO's 2018 Surplus Property Report, which reviewed over 400 City-owned properties for potential use for affordable housing, resulting in significant additional information incorporated into the City's Asset Management System; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, she established and led the Real Estate Unit for the Economic and Workforce Development Department, supervising the sale of surplus City property and the acquisition of the Pacoima Lifestyle Center; and

WHEREAS, she worked with staff and consultants to secure a \$2.7M Equitable Communities Revitalization Grant from the State Department of Toxic Substances Control for the remediation of environmental contamination at the City-owned site at 9402 S. Broadway, which will include 180 units of housing and a full service grocery store; and

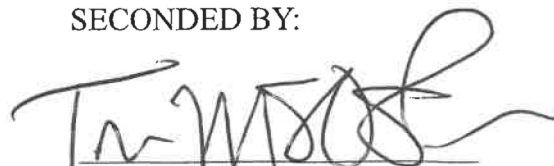
WHEREAS, she led a team evaluating potential Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts (EIFDs) in San Pedro, Hollywood and Downtown Los Angeles and a potential Disaster Recovery District in the Palisades:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Los Angeles hereby honors BLAIR MILLER for her work for the City of Los Angeles and extends its gratitude and congratulations on her retirement as Chief Grants Administrator, and best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors as she continues her leadership on housing affordability, economic development and improved active transportation in her home city of Pasadena.

PRESENTED BY:


MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilwoman, 7th District

SECONDED BY:


ALL COUNCIL

ORIGINAL

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