

Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley District 7
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CONSENT CALENDAR January 22, 2013

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Subject: Proclamation to Honor Shira Leeder as Ms. Wheelchair California

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a proclamation to honor Shira Leeder as Ms. Wheelchair California.

BACKGROUND

Shira Leeder successfully graduated and earned her Bachelors of Arts degree in American Studies with an emphasis on Disability Studies from the University of California, Berkeley.

Shira emerged as a local Disability Rights Activist and co-owner of a popular local greeting card business. She also is the ADA Coordinator for Friends of Kenney Cottage Garden, where she implemented a community project to make sure that this community garden was the first to be accessible for people with disabilities.

As a disability advocate, Shira gives speeches to bring disability awareness to her community and continues to strive even further to promote the "green movement" by making community gardens accessible to people with disabilities.

For years, Berkeley has been committed to representing and supporting all members of the community in favor of accomplishment, respect, and celebration. Shira Leeder is a role model advocate who deserves to be Ms. Wheelchair California. Shira has displayed integrity, personal accomplishments and achievements both personally and for the Berkeley community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONTACT PERSON

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Attachment:

1. Proclamation for Shira Leeder

IN HONOR OF SHIRA LEEDER

WHEREAS,	Shira Leeder has cerebral palsy, brain damage, due to a difficult birth and therefore has almost unintelligible speech, significant hearing loss, inability to stand or walk by herself and very limited dexterity with her hands; and		
WHEREAS,	Shira earned her Bachelors of Arts degree in American Studies with an emphasis on Disability Studies from the University of California, Berkeley; and		
WHEREAS,	Shira's disability advocacy began in 1999 when she was selected as the youth participant for the Youth with Disabilities Conference in Washington D.C.; and		
WHEREAS,	Shira is a local Disability Rights Activist; and		
WHEREAS,	Shira is the co-owner of a popular local greeting card business; and		
WHEREAS,	Shira is the ADA Coordinator for Friends of Kenney Cottage Garden, where she organized a community project to make sure that this community garden was the first to be accessible for people with disabilities; and		
WHEREAS,	Shira not continues to give speeches, do community organizing, and promote disability awareness in her community such as working other non-profits like the Bridge School and Center for Independent Living, Berkeley; and		
WHEREAS,	As Ms. Wheelchair California 2012, Shira strives to bring disability awareness issues to California and to promote the "green movement" by making community gardens accessible to people with disabilities; and		
	ze and proclaim S	ED , that we, the Mayor Tom Bates and hira Leeder for her abiding commitment	
Mayor Tom Bates		Councilmember Max Anderson	Councilmember Jesse Arreguin
Councilmember Laurie Capitelli		Councilmember Linda Maio	Councilmember Darryl Moore
Councilmember Susan Wengraf		Councilmember Kriss Worthington	Councilmember Gordon Wozniak