



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION HONORING JODY THOMAS UPON HER RETIREMENT AS CARPINTERIA CITY LIBRARIAN

WHEREAS, Jody Thomas has served as an extraordinary City Librarian and community leader blending her personal passion with professional excellence, sparkling as a beacon of public service rooted in compassion, accessibility, and inspiration; offering every patron her time, her insight, and often the perfect book recommendation; and

WHEREAS, with more than two decades of experience in library systems, including the Montecito Library, Santa Barbara Public Library and the California State Library, Jody brought unmatched knowledge of library operations, policy, programming, and staffing, while also serving as the leading voice on national issues such as banned books, digital equity, LGBTQ+ inclusion, and literacy access; and

WHEREAS, Jody was instrumental in guiding the historic transition of the Carpinteria Library from a Santa Barbara County branch to a City-managed community library; under her tutelage, the library tripled usage, increased circulation, and evolved into a modern civic hub, filled with books, digital resources, computer access, and vibrant programming for all ages; and

WHEREAS, her career has been marked by an unwavering commitment to social justice, exemplified by increased Spanish-language and digital literacy programs, elevating and emphasizing marginalized voices with the Carp Reads programming, and uplifting and amplifying diverse voices both on the shelves and in the halls of the library -- ensuring that every visitor, from shy children to isolated seniors, feels seen and supported; and

WHEREAS, Jody's signature warmth, quick laugh, steady presence, and sincere kindness — traits grounded in her broad experience and values — have made the Carpinteria Library a place where all feel welcome, safe, and connected. Her thoughtful leadership has earned the admiration of staff, the gratitude of the public, and countless well-deserved "Halos for Jody";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara does honor and commend Jody Thomas upon her retirement for her outstanding leadership, profound impact on the Carpinteria community, and her enduring legacy of service and learning.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 3rd day of June, 2025, by unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Maria Inez
Clerk of the Board

[Signature]

Supervisor - 1st District

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Supervisor - 2nd District

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Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 5th District