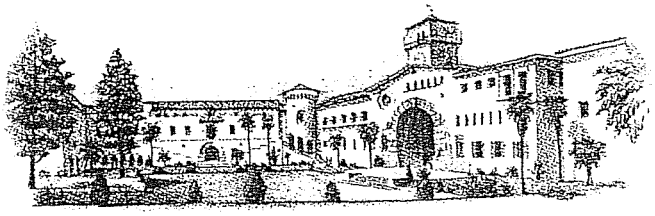

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION FOR RON CORTEZ FOR 14 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

WHEREAS, Ron Cortez started his career in public service in 1983 for the U.S. Air Force where he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant Navigator and would later become a Flight Commander Captain; in 1990 was hired as the Integrated Waste Management Manager for the County of Merced where he also served as City Councilman for the City of Merced; in 1994 moved to Santa Barbara and became the Deputy Director of Public Works. Solid Waste & Utilities Division; was promoted to the position of Director for the General Services Department in 1998 and in 2005 was appointed as the Deputy County Executive Officer; and

WHEREAS, While serving as Director of General Services, Ron changed "the way we do business" focusing on enhanced customer service throughout the department and providing employees with annual training to ensure improved service to other County departments; and

WHEREAS, Ron's expertise in organizational effectiveness landed him some critical and controversial projects such as reorganizing the Risk Management Division, including the development of a 10 year plan to eliminate the division's deficit and reorganizing the Planning and Development Department resulting in enhanced service levels to North County citizens and streamlining of the land use permit process; and

WHEREAS, Ron was responsible for developing the "Executive Scorecard" system, utilizing databases throughout the County to help managers utilize Performance Measures, Project Management data, and other tools to improve performance and accountability; and

WHEREAS, Ron has become known as the "MacGyver" of the County Executive Office, often solving complex organizational and fiscal problems using only his wits, masking tape, bailing wire and an old pocket knife (not to mention the occasional email, collaborative meeting, and creative PowerPoint presentation!); and

WHEREAS, Ron is known for his leadership, integrity, service orientation and powerful intellect as well as advocating a strong Customer Service based philosophy throughout the County of Santa Barbara to better serve the community; and

WHEREAS, Ron is respected and admired by the many employees who were fortunate to have worked with him during his tenure at the County of Santa Barbara, he has been a friend and mentor and the effects of his leadership will continue to be felt within the County organization for years to come.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors honors and commends Ron Cortez for his leadership and dedicated service for his 14 years of public service with the County of Santa Barbara, and wishes him and his family the best in their future endeavors.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California this 18th day of March, 2008, by unanimous vote of the members present.

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of the Board

_____ Supervisor - 1st District

_____ Supervisor - 2nd District

_____ Supervisor - 3rd District

_____ Supervisor - 4th District

_____ Supervisor - 5th District