



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

A RESOLUTION FOR ELIZABETH FARNUM UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

WHEREAS, in 1990 Elizabeth Farnum, affectionately known as Betty Ryan to those closest to her, began her career at the County of Santa Barbara and for more than 20 years has served in various capacities including, as an attorney in the County Counsel's office, Planning Commissioner, and most recently as a Third District Representative for both Supervisors Doreen Farr and Joan Hartmann; and

WHEREAS, while at County Counsel, Elizabeth served Deputy County Counsel specializing in land-use, air quality, and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) issues; and

WHEREAS, after her tenure at County Counsel, Elizabeth served as Third District Planning Commissioner, appointed by Supervisor Gail Marshall; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth's extensive experience at the County, her encyclopedic knowledge of Santa Ynez Valley issues, and her close relationships with Valley residents were instrumental in providing wise counsel and practical advice on a wide variety of policy issues such as the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan, water, parks and open space, libraries, senior centers, the Gaviota Coast, and Highway 154 safety improvements; and

WHEREAS, throughout all of the challenges and emergencies that arose over the years Elizabeth remained a stalwart, calm, unflappable, trusted, and loyal employee; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth forged strong relationships with staff from the Cities of Buellton and Solvang, County departments, as well as the California Highway Patrol and other public safety advocates; and

WHEREAS, constituents got used to dropping by or calling the Third District Solvang office where Elizabeth worked tirelessly to address their varied and sometimes complex problems. And many concerned residents found comfort in her demeanor, professionalism, and the fact that Elizabeth seems to know just about everyone; and

WHEREAS, a steady hand and always cool under pressure, the only time Elizabeth ever frazzled was when it was suggested to use her small office as a remote testimony outpost for public comment during Board of Supervisors meetings; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth is an avid reader and member of several book clubs; enjoys adventure travel, gardening, and gleaning for Veggie Rescue; delights in long walks and ocean swims; she will now have more time to pursue these and her many other interests, including sharing time with her wonderful and witty husband, Jim Farnum; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth's retirement is certainly well deserved but she will be sorely missed by so many residents for whom she worked incredibly hard to make Santa Barbara County a better place to live for everyone.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors honors Elizabeth Farnum for her years of dedicated service to the citizens of Santa Barbara County and congratulates her upon her retirement.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 8th day of January 2019.



ATTEST:

McDermott
Clerk of the Board

Paul Hines

Supervisor - 1st District

Greg Hart

Supervisor - 2nd District

Joan Hartman

Supervisor - 3rd District

Dee Dee

Supervisor - 4th District

Steve

Supervisor - 5th District