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RESOLUTION HONORING LAURIE BAKER UPON HER RETIRMENT FROM THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

WHEREAS, Laurie Baker is retiring from the Housing and Community Development Division of the Community Services Department after over 34 years of faithful, dedicated, and distinguished public service to the local community - 11 of those working directly for the County of Santa Barbara; and

WHEREAS, in Laurie's tenure, she administered over \$94,000,000 in federal, state, and local funds, and facilitated countywide and municipal coalition building in order to better serve our most vulnerable residents; and

WHEREAS, Laurie's expertise and guidance to internal and external county partners were instrumental in the development of 772 housing units financed with \$22 million dollars in local state and federal funds to serve farmworkers, seniors, homeless persons, victims of domestic violence, persons with disabilities and low-income families; and

WHEREAS, Laurie has consistently provided leadership, guidance, and technical, regulatory, and administrative assistance to County partner cities under the CDBG Urban County, HOME Consortium, and Permanent Local Housing Allocation Consortium, ensuring the fulfillment of community needs and maintaining responsible stewardship of collective resources; and

WHEREAS, amidst the uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic, Laurie's leadership guided the County to provide assistance to 4,872 households through Emergency Rent Assistance programs, addressing emergency rent, utility arrears, and housing navigation services, along with assisting 51 local businesses; and

WHEREAS, as Housing and Programs Manager of the Division, Laurie has demonstrated a deep commitment to the development of her staff, serving as an exceptional mentor. Her generous sharing of extensive knowledge in housing program practices and regulations, acquired over her career, has been instrumental in empowering her staff; and

WHEREAS, Laurie embodies the principle of service above self and has consistently prioritized the well-being of the community;

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

PASS AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this second day of April 2024 by unanimous vote of all members present.

> SEAL RIBBON

1st District

2nd District

Supervisor - 3rd District

Supervisor - 4th District

pervisor - 5th District