A RESOLUTION HONORING THE ORGANIZERS, PRODUCERS AND ATTENDING STAFF ON LOVE OUR LAKE DAY, JUNE 9, 2013

WHEREAS, the Measure DD Community Coalition, now in its tenth year, proposed a celebration to dedicate the new Lake Merritt Boulevard and Amphitheater, and thank voters of Measure DD, the Oakland Trust for Clean Water Safe Parks Bond of 2002, which has largely funded recent improvements at Lake Merritt; and

WHEREAS, Walk Oakland Bike Oakland (WBO) proposed Oaklavia – Sunday Streets Festival to create car-free streets for a day, and worked closely with staff to create a continuous route around Lake Merritt, with essential detours for vehicles, accommodating walkers, skaters, bicyclists, skateboarders and dancers; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Jean Quan proposed that both events take place on the same day, to be called LOVE OUR LAKE DAY; and

WHEREAS, the Cultural Arts and Marketing Department, drawing on years of experience in mounting outdoor nationally-recognized entertainment events and Oakland’s running festivals, brought two community-driven efforts together to collectively produce LOVE OUR LAKE DAY; and

WHEREAS, WBO provided 200 volunteers to assist the Oakland Police Department in managing detouring vehicular traffic, and also recruited entertainment for venues surrounding Lake Merritt; and

WHEREAS, event sponsors helped underwrite the costs of LOVE OUR LAKE DAY, including AC Transit, AT&T, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, BART, Cliff Bar, East Bay Bicycle Coalition, East Bay Express, Lake Merritt – Uptown District Association, McGuire & Hester, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, PG&E, Port of Oakland, Port of Oakland, TransForm and the Sierra Club, and others that made in-kind contributions; and

WHEREAS, on LOVE OUR LAKE DAY the Public Works Agency’s Parks Maintenance staff, including custodians and painters, began work at dawn to paint out graffiti and otherwise spruce the grounds one last time for the day’s events; and

WHEREAS, Naomi Schiff and James Vann, representing both the Measure DD Community Coalition and the Coalition of Advocates for Lake Merritt, ably co-chaired the Dedication Ceremony, introducing Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Governor Jerry Brown, Mayor Jean Quan, former Councilmember and Measure DD co-author Danny Wan, and Council President and Measure DD co-author Patricia Kernighan for their presentations and Oakland artists for their performances; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Oakland families turned out for LOVE OUR LAKE DAY to experience car-free streets, and attend free performances and the Dedication Ceremony, reveling in the opportunity to enjoy so much easily accessible entertainment next to beautiful Lake Merritt; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the Oakland City Council extends its deep appreciation to the Measure DD Community Coalition, Walk Oakland Bike Oakland, the Cultural Arts and Marketing Department, and the Parks Maintenance staff for envisioning and producing the Dedication Ceremony and Oaklavia – Sunday Streets, and congratulate them all on a wildly successful LOVE OUR LAKE DAY.