

# City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

January 21, 2014 New Business Consent

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 14-001 OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING JANUARY 15<sup>TH</sup> EACH YEAR AS MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY IN THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA AND ACKNOWLEDGING RESOLUTION NO. 02-041 WHICH PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> EACH YEAR AS CESAR CHAVEZ DAY IN THE CITY OF CARSON

Submitted by Jacquelyn Acosta

Acting City Manager

Approved by Jacquelyn Acosta

Acting City Manager

#### I. <u>SUMMARY</u>

This item is on the agenda at the request of Councilwoman Davis-Holmes.

Tonight the City Council is asked to adopt Resolution No. 14-001 recognizing January 15<sup>th</sup> each year as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in the City of Carson (Exhibit No. 1). The City already recognizes and observes the third Monday in January, the national observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, as a City holiday for which the employees receive holiday pay and the City is closed. If the City Council approves Resolution No. 14-001, it will not affect our current practice of observing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on the third Monday of January, nor will it add an additional paid holiday for City employees or be an additional day that the City is closed.

Additionally, in response to Councilwoman Davis-Holmes' request to recognize Cesar Chavez, staff has researched the issue and the City has already formally taken this action through the adoption of Resolution No. 02-041 (Exhibit No. 2) which states, "In honor of Cesar Chavez's great accomplishments, the City of Carson will recognize March 31<sup>st</sup> each year as Cesar Chavez Day."

#### II. <u>RECOMMENDATION</u>

WAIVE further reading and ADOPT Resolution No. 14-001, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING JANUARY 15<sup>TH</sup> EACH YEAR AS DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY IN THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA."

#### III. <u>ALTERNATIVES</u>

TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

#### IV. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was an American pastor, activist, humanitarian, and leader in the African-American Civil Rights Movement. He is best known for his

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role in the advancement of civil rights using nonviolent civil disobedience based on his Christian beliefs.

A Baptist minister, King became a civil rights activist early in his career. He led the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott and helped found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in 1957, serving as its first president. With the SCLC, King led an unsuccessful struggle against segregation in Albany, Georgia, in 1962, and organized nonviolent protests in Birmingham, Alabama, that attracted national attention following television news coverage of the brutal police response.

King also helped to organize the 1963 March on Washington, where he delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech. There, he established his reputation as one of the greatest orators in American history.

On October 14, 1964, King received the Nobel Peace Prize for combating racial inequality through nonviolence. In 1965, he and the SCLC helped to organize the Selma to Montgomery marches and the following year, he took the movement north to Chicago to work on segregated housing. In the final years of his life, King expanded his focus to include poverty and the Vietnam War, alienating many of his liberal allies with a 1967 speech titled "Beyond Vietnam."

In 1968 King was planning a national occupation of Washington, D.C., to be called the Poor People's Campaign, when he was assassinated on April 4 in Memphis, Tennessee. His death was followed by riots in many U.S. cities. Allegations that James Earl Ray, the man convicted of killing King, had been framed or acted in concert with government agents persisted for decades after the shooting. The jury of a 1999 civil trial found Loyd Jowers to be complicit in a conspiracy against King.

King was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day was established as a holiday in numerous cities and states beginning in 1971, and as a U.S. federal holiday in 1986. Hundreds of streets and a county in the U.S. have been renamed in his honor. A memorial statue on the National Mall was opened to the public in 2011.

#### V. FISCAL IMPACT

None.

#### VI. EXHIBITS

- 1. Resolution No. 14-001. (pgs. 4-5)
- 2. Resolution No. 02-041. (pgs. 6-7)

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Prepared by: Lisa Berglund, Princ	ipal Administrative Analyst	
TO: Rev11-25-2013		
Reviewed by:		
City Clerk	City Treasurer	
Administrative Services	Public Works	
Community Development	Community Services	
Action taken by City Council		
Date Action		

#### RESOLUTION NO. 14-001

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING JANUARY 15<sup>TH</sup> EACH YEAR AS DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY IN THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., changed our Nation forever through his leadership, service, and clarity of vision; and

WHEREAS, in the brief time Dr. King walked upon this earth, he devoted his life to strengthening the content of the American character and called on our Nation to live up to its founding principles of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all its citizens; and

WHEREAS, through his determination, spirit, and resolve, Dr. King helped lift souls and lead one of the greatest movements for equality and freedom in history; and

WHEREAS, the City of Carson wishes to honor the lasting legacy of this great American, remember the ideals for which he fought, and recommit ourselves to ensuring that our country's promise extends to all Americans across our great land; and

WHEREAS, all citizens of the City of Carson be encouraged to honor Dr. King by living out his teachings as we continue to work for the day when the dignity and humanity of every person is respected; and

WHEREAS, as we observe Dr. King's birthday, the City of Carson encourages all Americans to celebrate his memory by performing acts of kindness through service to others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Carson, California, recognizes January 15<sup>th</sup> each year as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this	day of	2014.
	Moyor Em Door	
ATTEST:	Mayor Jim Dear	
City Clerk Donesia L.Gause, CMC		
APPROVED AS TO FORM:		
City Attorney		



#### **RESOLUTION 02-041**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (AFSCME), LOCAL 809, COUNCIL 36 (RESOLUTION NO. 00-109) TO ADD CESAR CHAVEZ DAY TO THE LIST OF CITY PAID HOLIDAYS CONTAINED IN ARTICLE IV, SECTION 4, SUBSECTION 4.1

WHEREAS, on March 31, 1927, Cesar Estrada Chavez was born on a small farm near Yuma, Arizona; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez founded the National Farm Workers Association in 1962, which later became the United Farm Workers of America (UFW), AFL-CIO, the first successful farmworkers' union in United States history; and

WHEREAS, under Cesar Chavez's tireless leadership, the UFW was the first to win collective bargaining for farmworkers; and

WHEREAS, at its peak in the 1980's, the UFW's collective bargaining agreements covered approximately 80,000 workers in California, Arizona and Florida; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez led a successful five-year strike boycott that rallied millions of supporters to the UFW and forged a national support coalition of unions, church groups, students, minorities and consumers; and

WHEREAS, on April 23, 1993, Cesar Chavez passed away, leaving behind an enduring legacy of service and leadership; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez's influence has made a lasting impact on farm labor issues and enabled millions of Latinos to achieve educational and political success;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON HEREBY FINDS, DETERMINES AND RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:



Section 1. In honor of Cesar Chavez's great accomplishments, the City of Carson will recognize March 31<sup>st</sup> each year as "Cesar Chavez Day." City Hall offices will be closed and this day will be considered a City paid holiday for all full-time City employees.



Section 2. Article IV, Section 4, Subsection 4.1 of the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and AFSCME, as adopted by Resolution No. 00-109, is hereby amended to read as follows:

4.1 The following days will be recognized for union employees:

- January 1 (New Year's Day)
- The third Monday in January (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)
- The third Monday in February (President's Day)
- March 31<sup>st</sup> (Cesar Chavez Day)
- The last Monday in May (Memorial Day)
- July 4 (Independence Day)
- The first Monday in September (Labor Day)
- November 11 (Veterans' Day)
- Thanksgiving Day (Thanksgiving Day)
- December 25 (Christmas)
- Every day proclaimed by the President, Governor or Mayor of this City as a public holiday.

<u>Section 3.</u> Except as herein amended, the MOU between the City and AFSCME, as adopted by Resolution No. 00-109, shall remain in full force and effect.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 19th DAY OF MARCH, 2002.

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY

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