

## **P R O C L A M A T I O N**

### **HONORING LINDA RUFFING, FORT BRAGG CITY MANAGER, FOR HER 18 YEARS OF SELFLESS AND INVALUABLE SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY**

**WHEREAS**, on October 4, 1999, Linda Ruffing was hired as the City of Fort Bragg's Community Development Director, thus starting an 18 ½ year career with the City; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 18, 2006, Linda was appointed to serve as Fort Bragg's City Manager; and

**WHEREAS**, during 12 years as City Manager, Linda has worked for 12 different councilmembers and three different mayors and she has gracefully navigated the City through a spectrum of politics, challenges and crises including the Great Recession; and

**WHEREAS**, through Linda's extraordinary leadership and vision, she has assembled a stable, innovative and successful management team and City staff who are dedicated to improving the quality of life in Fort Bragg; and

**WHEREAS**, Linda's exceptional character, judgment, ethics and integrity have always led her to put the needs of the community first and foremost; and

**WHEREAS**, Linda has served the City of Fort Bragg in a tireless, fair, professional and open manner, providing stable leadership while implementing the City Council's direction and priorities; and

**WHEREAS**, Linda's accomplishments during her tenure are too numerous to recount, but some highlights include:

- Exercised overall responsibility for the sound and effective management of City government.
- Ensured that actions and programs necessary to achieve the City Council's goals and priorities were integrated into the day-to-day work programs of City departments.
- Reviewed City Council agenda packets for 445 special and regular City Council meetings including editing 7,692 staff reports.
- Oversaw the recruitment, hiring and training of 127 new employees.
- Presented 11 annual operating budgets and capital budgets to the City Council, monitored the City's financial stability, and established sound fiscal management practices to maintain a strong and resilient organization that has successfully weathered shifting economic circumstances.
- Helped transform Fort Bragg from a coastal city with no coastal access in 1999 to a city with public access to every inch of its coastline in 2018.
- Coordinated the City's successful response to the multi-million dollar Georgia Pacific v. Office Max Superfund litigation.
- Helped negotiate the underlying agreements for the C.V. Starr Community Center special sales tax ballot measure, and oversaw the transition of the facility to City ownership with fiscal and operational oversight.
- Helped implement ambitious capital improvement programs year-after-year, including replacement of aging water and wastewater infrastructure, construction of a reservoir, improvements to City streets, upgrades to City parks and facilities, and more.
- Helped to manage the Georgia-Pacific Mill Site reuse activities, including community visioning, oversight of environmental remediation, preparation of the Mill Site Specific Plan, conception of the Noyo Center for Marine Science, and implementation of the Coastal Trail project.
- Guided the transition of City departments into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, including: updating the City's website, establishment of a social media presence, live-streaming all City meetings, and going to paperless City Council agenda packets.

- Helped City Council successfully shepherd several key revenue measures through the voter-approval process including: ½ cent special sales tax for C.V. Starr Center; renewal of ½ cent special sales tax for Street Repairs; renewal and increase of parcel tax for Fire Equipment; and increase of Transient Occupancy Tax with a companion advisory measure.
- Served as City's primary coordinator for the Noyo Center for Marine Science project from its conception in 2005 to its successful transfer to a non-profit organization.
- As Community Development Director, established City's Community Development Block Grant program which, over the years, has brought in many millions of dollars for projects and programs to assist low income residents.
- Oversaw planning and implementation of Downtown Revitalization Project, from initial conceptual planning to obtaining grants and other funds for construction of three-phased streetscape project for Fort Bragg's central business district.
- Helped establish Coalition for Gang Awareness and Prevention (CGAP) to respond to community concerns about gang violence.
- Maintained successful partnerships with numerous local agencies to optimize service delivery including partnerships with the Mendocino Coast Humane Society (animal shelter); Ukiah Police Department (police dispatch); Chamber of Commerce (marketing); FBUSD and MCRPD (skate park); Mendocino County (solid waste management).
- Served on Board of Directors of Redwood Empire Municipal Insurance Fund (REMIF), a joint powers authority that provides general liability, worker's compensation, and group health insurance to 14 cities.
- Served on the League of California Cities' Governance, Transparency, and Labor Relations Committee- a statewide committee focused on policy and legislative solutions to the pension crisis in California.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lindy Peters**, Mayor of the City of Fort Bragg, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, February 14, 2018 as "Linda Ruffing Day" in the City of Fort Bragg and encourage all citizens to join me in wishing Linda the very best in her retirement and thanking her for indefatigable effort and countless contributions over the past 18 ½ years.

**SIGNED and SEALED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2018**

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**LINDY PETERS, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**June Lemos, CMC, City Clerk**

No. 02-2018