

(R-2003-1210)

RESOLUTION NUMBER R-**297884**

ADOPTED ON **APR 28 2003**

WHEREAS, Marcia McLatchy has been a dedicated employee of the City of San Diego for 29 years from 1974 to 2003, serving the departments of Environmental Services, Park and Recreation, Water Utilities, and the Office of the City Manager; and on May 16th, Marcia will retire from City service; and

WHEREAS, Marcia McLatchy came to the Park and Recreation Department as a Senior Recreation Leader, left as the Department Director, and then concluded her successful career as a City employee as the City's Executive Trainer in the Office of the City Manager; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department is the second largest park system in the nation, offering residents and visitors 35,000 acres of parks and open spaces, 337 neighborhood and community parks, 177 playground sites, 53 recreation centers, 13 swimming pools, and 4 golf courses; and during Marcia's tenure as Park and Recreation Director, the Department managed more acres with fewer employees than its large city counterparts and consistently maintained customer satisfaction ratings of 98 percent or greater; and

WHEREAS, Marcia McLatchy encouraged excellence from staff throughout her career, and will be remembered for her personal and professional commitment to employees, her warmth, her sense of humor, how she valued the unique talents that her employees brought to the workplace, and the fact that the shelves of her office overflowed with pictures of City employees' children; and

WHEREAS, under the guidance of Marcia McLatchy, many new and award-winning facilities were added to the park system to better serve the recreational needs of residents and tourists, including the House of Hospitality and House of Charm in Balboa Park, Mission Trails Regional Park Visitors Center, and Robb Field Skateboard Park—the City's first skate park; and

WHEREAS, the Park and Recreation Department was recognized numerous times under Marcia's leadership as being a national model in quality programs and operations, including the award-winning Disabled Services Program and Torrey Pines Golf Course, and in 1997, created a web site for the first time which was recognized by the California Parks and Recreation Society as being the best in the State; and

WHEREAS, San Diego's Park and Recreation Department was recognized as the most efficiently run park and recreation department seven years running by the Reason Public Policy Institute in 2002; and


WHEREAS, while director, Marcia received the "Gold Night of Management Award" from the National Management Association in 1996, the City's "Diversity Distinction Award" in 1999, and the "Environmental Service to the Community Award" from the Soroptimist International of Rancho Bernardo in 2001; and

WHEREAS, based on Marcia's own love of Santa Claus statues and trinkets, and her power of persuasion, she began the "Adopt a Santa" Program which began in 1996 for donations that would enhance services provided in parks and in recreation facilities throughout the City, and the Marcia C. McLatchy Scholarship Fund, which was established in January 2002 and administered through the San Diego Friends of Parks and Recreation Foundation with seed money from the Adopt a Santa Program, serves to raise funds specifically to enhance the recreational, educational, and cultural opportunities available to children whose families are not in a position to afford the already low costs associated with participating in youth programs; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the citizens of San Diego, does hereby commend Marcia McLatchy for her 29 years of dedicated service to the City and wishes her well during her much-deserved retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that April 28, 2003, be and is hereby proclaimed to be **"MARCIA McLATCHY DAY"** in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By 
Lisa A. Foster
Deputy City Attorney

LAF:jab
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