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(R-2006-451)

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 301016

ADOPTED ON NOV 14 2005

WHEREAS, LEON WILLIAMS, a graduate of San Diego State University, has had a long and distinguished career of public service and community involvement, beginning with service in the armed forces, service in the County of San Diego's Social Services and Sheriff's Departments, and having served as acting director of the San Diego Urban League; and

WHEREAS, LEON WILLIAMS made history as San Diego's first African-American City Councilmember and in this capacity was instrumental in the creation of the Metropolitan Transit System in 1985, which he would eventually Chair in 1994, and where he became known as a visionary of what has evolved into a very successful light rail public transportation system throughout San Diego City and County; and

WHEREAS, LEON WILLIAMS continued in his pioneering path as San Diego's first African-American County Supervisor, where he furthered his advocacy of public transportation and the expansion of the San Diego Trolley; and

WHEREAS, LEON WILLIAMS, a local treasure, was nationally recognized as the American Public Transportation Association's Outstanding Public Transit Board Member; and

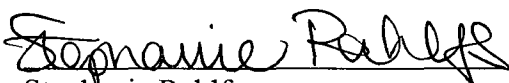
WHEREAS, LEON WILLIAMS, a devoted family man, takes special pride in his wife and the accomplishments of his children and grandchildren, with whom he looks forward to spending more time with, and is an avid athlete who enjoys running, cycling, and camping throughout the State of California; and

WHEREAS, LEON WILLIAMS has been involved in varying capacities with the California Constitution Commission, the Los Angeles-San Diego Rail Corridor Agency, the California Coastal Commission, the League of California Cities, the National League of Cities, and has served as president of the California State Association of Counties as well as the National Association of Counties; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby recognize the many inspiring contributions made by LEON WILLIAMS on the occasion of his retirement as Chair of the Board of Directors of the San Diego Metropolitan Transit Development Board after having been an integral part of the organization for nearly 30 years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that November 14, 2005, be and is hereby proclaimed to be "LEON WILLIAMS DAY" in the City of San Diego in honor of all of his pioneering achievements and in appreciation of his continual dedication to our citizens and community.

APPROVED: MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By   
Stephanie Rahlfs  
Deputy City Attorney

SR:jb  
11/03/2005  
Or.Dept:Deputy Mayor Atkins  
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