



MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR &
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Deanna J. Santana

SUBJECT: Retirement of Carmen Martinez

DATE: October 26, 2012

INFORMATION

This information memo is to inform you that Carmen Martinez, Director of the Oakland Public Library System, has notified me of her intent to retire December 15. Carmen has served as Director with the Oakland Public Library (OPL) since 2000.

During her course of leadership, Carmen led the Department through substantial growth and a series of notable accomplishments that strived to continue the long tradition of providing first-class library customer service to Oakland's Community. Examples of her contributions include her role of developing a Master Facilities Plan that responded to the community's need for improved services through revitalized facilities, the Passage of Measure Q that secured future funding for Oakland's Library system, the relocation of the Piedmont Avenue Branch, and the unveiling of the Main Library Teen Zone—which appropriated 2,000 square feet of space on the 2nd floor of the Main Library Branch for teens to design and use, changing the way the OPL provides library service to young adults. In addition, Carmen spearheaded the openings of several libraries in key areas of Oakland, including the African American Museum and Library at Oakland in Downtown, the Caesar Chavez Branch in the Fruitvale District and the 81st Avenue Community Branch Library in East Oakland.

Upon Carmen's departure, current Assistant Director Gerry Garzon will be serve as Interim Library Director. I am confident that Gerry holds the skills and dedication to ensure a smooth transition of leadership.

As a key member of my management team, Carmen will be greatly missed. Please join me in appreciation to Carmen for her many contributions to our City, and in wishing her the best in her retirement.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

DEANNA J. SANTANA
City Administrator