



MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR &
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Fred Blackwell

SUBJECT: DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
APPOINTMENT

DATE: June 9, 2014

INFORMATION

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Brooke A. Levin as Director of Public Works for the City of Oakland, effective June 9, 2014. Ms. Levin has been serving as the City's Interim Public Works Director since August 2013. Ms. Levin has more than 30 years of public and private sector experience that she brings to the City of Oakland, for which 23 years have been with the City. In her role as Interim Public Works Director, she has overseen a \$178 million operating budget, a Capital Budget of \$54.1 million and a staff of over 753 FTEs in four bureaus: Facilities & Environment; Infrastructure & Operations; Engineering & Construction; and, Administration. She has led the City in major citywide conversion projects such as LED Lighting and the upcoming installation of Smart Parking Meters. Ms. Levin has distinguished herself as holding a strong background on City operations and has a strong vision for the future of Public Works that strengthens critical city services while leveraging innovation and technology.

Under Ms. Levin's leadership, Public Works has a number of major efforts underway now and over the next year. These include, but are not limited to: implementation of the Sewer Consent Decree; award of the Zero Waste Services Contracts; development and implementation of a new plan for park maintenance; paving of 10.5 lane-miles of streets-equivalent to 80 blocks; ground breaking on the Embarcadero Bridge; completion of the 10th Street/Lake Merritt bridge; and, the Sausal Creek Restoration. Public Works will also work closely with the Planning and Building Department on various private development projects including the Brooklyn Basin and the Oakland Army Base.

Prior to serving as Interim Public Works Director, Ms. Levin served as Assistant Director of Public Works for ten (10) years, managing the operation and maintenance of parks, City facilities, street cleaning, garbage and recycling collection, environmental cleanup, tree services and sustainability. Ms. Levin also served as the President of the Confidential Management Employees Association from 2012 to 2013. Prior to her position as Assistant Director of Public Works, Ms. Levin served as the City's first Environmental Services Manager for ten (10) years. She played a key role in Planning and Public Works issues as a Policy Advisor to Mayor Elihu Harris from 1991 to 1994. In addition, Ms. Levin held a lead role in the aftermath of the 1991 Oakland Hills Firestorm and created the Firestorm Tile Mural, a healing project installed at the Rockridge BART station.

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Ms. Levin holds a Bachelor's degree in University Studies from the University of New Mexico. She is a member of the American Public Works Association and has a designation as a Public Works Leadership Fellow. She is also a member of the American Planning Association as well as the City of Oakland's Pollinator Posse. Ms. Levin, an Oakland resident since 1979, raised her two sons in Oakland and is committed to making Oakland a top livable, sustainable and green City for all to enjoy. Please join me in congratulating Brooke on her appointment.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

FRED BLACKWELL

Interim City Administrator