Mayor Libby Schaaf was inaugurated Oakland, California’s 50th mayor on January 5, 2015.

Born and raised in Oakland, Mayor Schaaf is proud to have won 63 percent of Oaklanders’ votes on November 4, 2014 in a city-wide, ranked-choice election against 15 other candidates.

Mayor Schaaf previously served one term as a member of the Oakland City Council. While on the Council, she sped up police recruitment and added civilian staffing, allowing sworn officers to respond more quickly and effectively to crime and public safety concerns.

A proponent of innovation in government, Mayor Schaaf supported small business growth by establishing a groundbreaking partnership with Kiva Zip to provide 0 percent interest loans to financially-excluded and socially-impactful entrepreneurs in Oakland.

Her leadership on the Council also led to reforms that modernized government technology and increased transparency, accountability and public access to information. She spearheaded several good government efforts, including introducing a voter-passed initiative to create an independent re-districting commission. This reformed the process for drawing Council and School Board district boundaries, ensuring greater equity and public engagement in the process. She also advocated for open data laws, playing an instrumental role in the creation of a partnership with Code for America to develop an internationally-recognized online public records request system. This system has increased public visibility into the City’s budget, finances and campaign contributions to elected officials.

A former Council chief of staff and top mayoral aide to Jerry Brown, Mayor Schaaf represented Mayor Brown on the Project Choice Re-Entry Steering Committee, whose juvenile parolees enjoyed an 83 percent lower recidivism rate. Later, as Public Affairs Director for the Port of Oakland, she helped bring millions in state and federal funds to Oakland.

A lifelong volunteer, Mayor Schaaf’s two decades of public service experience began while she was a young attorney and co-founded the non-profit Oakland Cares, which organized and implemented hundreds of volunteer community improvement projects across the city. She later left her legal career at Oakland’s largest law firm to build and run the first centralized volunteer program for Oakland public schools at the Marcus Foster Institute.

Mayor Schaaf is honored to serve the people of Oakland and to help promote her hometown as the greatest place to live, work, play and do business. She is committed to revitalization that preserves and celebrates Oakland’s diversity and leads to direct prosperity for long-time residents and newcomers.

Her four areas of focus as mayor are: holistic community safety, responsive trustworthy government, sustainable vibrant infrastructure and equitable jobs and housing. She is dedicated to ensuring the safety, education and fair treatment of all Oakland residents.

A graduate of Oakland’s Skyline High School, Mayor Schaaf holds a B.A. from Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida and a J.D. from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, California. She lives in Oakland’s Dimond neighborhood with her husband Sal and their two young children who are students at the same public elementary school that she attended.