



#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MARY WAINWRIGHT

**WHEREAS,** Mary Wainwright, born on June 19, 1930, dedicated her life to community service, education, and equity, making a lasting impact on the City of Berkeley and its residents; and

**WHEREAS,** as a devoted mother, Mary began her community involvement as an active PTA member, Cub Scout den mother, and Blue Bird troop leader, before pursuing her education and earning bachelor's and master's degrees in Education and Child Development, ultimately becoming a dedicated educator; and

**WHEREAS,** her leadership extended as President of the Channing-Bonar Neighborhood Association, where she improved neighborhood safety by leading efforts to underground electrical lines and enhance local infrastructure, creating lasting benefits for the community; and

**WHEREAS,** Mary was elected to the Berkeley City Council, serving two terms from 1988 to 1996, during which she championed initiatives to address environmental hazards, such as those at the Corporation Yard, and fostered civic engagement, environmental stewardship, social justice, and helped get city sponsorship for the Berkeley Juneteenth Festival; and

**WHEREAS,** Mary contributed as an early member of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators and the National Council of Negro Women while supporting efforts to honor civil rights leaders, including renaming the South Berkeley Branch Library after Tarea Hall Pittman; and

**WHEREAS,** she served on the boards of Berkeley Youth Alternatives, the Berkeley Juneteenth Festival, and the Friends of the Center for Independent Living, while also actively participating in organizations such as Rebuilding Together, the Berkeley Democratic Club, and the League of Women Voters; and

**WHEREAS,** her dedication to public advocacy, education, and community-building embodied her belief in making life better for children, families, and future generations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that I, Adena Ishii, Mayor of the City of Berkeley, hereby honors the life and legacy of Former Councilmember Mary Wainwright, recognizing her invaluable contributions to our city and celebrating the remarkable impact of her leadership, compassion, and vision.



Adena Ishii  
Mayor



April 29, 2025