

Agenda Report

April 16, 2012

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Legislative Policy Committee (March 28, 2012)

FROM: Human Services and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM IN WASHINGTON D.C.**

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council support the Resolution for the establishment of a National Women's History Museum in Washington, D.C.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 28, 2012, the Legislative Policy Committee recommended that the City Council support this Resolution.

BACKGROUND:

On September 8, 2011, the National Women's History Museum Bill passed in the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The project is to build the first ever national museum in Washington, D.C. dedicated exclusively to women's history to be built centrally located near the world's most prestigious museums and monuments in our Nation's Capital.

To further support the project, formal approval of support from government agencies is being sought. This proposed project is not being underwritten by the federal government or with taxpayer dollars. The project, estimated to cost \$150 million is to be built with private funding through support of the American people.

The attached Resolution demonstrates to Congress that the City of Pasadena supports the project and fundraising efforts for full budget construction of the museum.

FISCAL IMPACT:

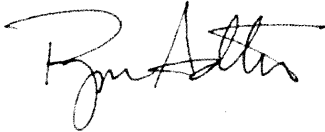
Support of this Resolution does not commit the City of Pasadena to fund any part of the proposed museum.

Respectfully submitted,



MERCY SANTORO
Director, Human Services & Recreation

Prepared by:



ROZANNE ADANTO
Community Services Supervisor II

Approved by:



for MICHAEL J. BECK
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASADENA SUPPORTING
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM IN
WASHINGTON, D.C.

WHEREAS, in 1987 Congress declared March to serve as "Women's History Month" to acknowledge the important role women have played in shaping America; and

WHEREAS, although women constitute a majority of the nation's population their achievements and contributions are underrepresented in museums and memorials; and

WHEREAS, only 10% of the people identified in a recent survey of 18 history textbooks were women; and

WHEREAS, in 1999 The President's Commission on the Celebration of Women in American History called for a women's history museum to be established on "The National Mall" in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, the National Women's History Museum ("NWHM"), founded in 1996, is a non-partisan, non-profit, educational institution dedicated to preserving, interpreting, and celebrating the diverse historic contributions of women, and integrating the heritage of women fully into this nation's history; and

WHEREAS, the NWHM seeks a site on or close to the National Mall and in close proximity to the White House and U.S. Capitol Building; and

WHEREAS, the NWHM has identified federally owned property for sale near the National Mall; and

WHEREAS, legislation is currently pending in Congress seeking authorization for the NWHM to be able to purchase this property at fair market value with privately raised funds and no federal funds are being requested for the purchase of this land; and

WHEREAS, there are museums dedicated to flight, postage stamps, buildings and many other important people and issues of interest but not to women, and yet women comprise 51% of the nation's population; and

WHEREAS, the NWHM will showcase the full history of women in the United States and the contributions they have made and continue to make in the marketplace, arts and sciences, government, entertainment, education, home, and community; and

WHEREAS, a Coalition of 43 women's organizations representing 8 million women, which includes the National Foundation for Women Legislators ("NFWL"), supports the efforts of the NWHM to establish a permanent residence near the National Mall, the most prominent location for museums to be situated in the nation's capital;

WHEREAS, the City Council supports the work of the Commission on the Status of Women, which celebrates thirty-three years of service addressing women's issues in the City of Pasadena, focusing on women in the workplace, women and homelessness, women in leadership roles, women and education and women's health; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Pasadena asks the esteemed Members of Congress to support the NWHM's efforts to secure a permanent home in the nation's capital for a museum that will highlight the important role women have played in shaping this great nation.

Adopted by the following vote at the regular meeting of the City Council on the _____ day of _____, 2012:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Mark Jomsky, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:


Michelle Beal Bagneris, City Attorney