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CONSENT CALENDAR

October 2, 2012

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington
 Subject: Proclamation in Honor of the Center of Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems (CASFS) City Day of Appreciation

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council adopts a proclamation that October 7 is Center of Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems (CASFS) City Day of Appreciation in Berkeley.

BACKGROUND

UC Santa Cruz's CASFS program will celebrate its 45th anniversary ceremony on October 7, 2012. The Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems is a research, education, and public service program at the University of California, Santa Cruz, dedicated to increasing ecological sustainability and social justice in the food and agriculture system. In addition to CASFS, the Alan Chadwick Garden and UCSC Farm focuses on soil and plant care, resource conservation, working with and respecting nature, and finding the ecological basis for sustainable food production. This was the first UC effort to focus on sustainable agriculture, commercial organic production methods, and the social issues associated with developing a sustainable food system.

Over the past 45 years, the CASF program has graduated 1,500 students whose work has had a positive impact nationwide and in the Bay Area. Berkeley in particular has benefitted greatly from the efforts of these graduates. Berkeley groups affiliated with CASFS include: Berkeley Food Systems Project, Berkeley Unified School District, Berkeley Farmers Market, Berkeley Youth Alternatives, David Brower Center, and many more.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

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CENTER OF AGROECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS DAY

WHEREAS, the Center of Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems at UC Santa Cruz, in the first UC effort to focus on sustainable agriculture, has a program that is essential in the Bay Area’s continual search for sustainable food systems; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that sustainable agriculture is an issue of much importance and that current food production has created tremendous pressure on natural resources and surrounding natural habitats, as well as compromising the economic health of rural communities, the food security of economically disadvantaged citizens, and the well-being of many of those who grow and harvest our food; and

WHEREAS, the program will celebrate their 45 year anniversary on October 7, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley community is grateful to the program’s research, education, and outreach programs and to its graduates for the work they have done to better the city and the world; and specifically their work with Berkeley organizations contributing to a more secure future for the Berkeley food system.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City hereby proclaims October 7, 2012 to be

CENTER OF AGROECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS DAY

and we appreciate greatly the work that has been done with sustainable agriculture and urge all members of society to support future efforts to improve it, locally and worldwide.

Mayor Tom Bates

Councilmember Max Anderson

Councilmember Jesse Arreguin

Councilmember Laurie Capitelli

Councilmember Linda Maio

Councilmember Darryl Moore

Councilmember Susan Wengraf

Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Councilmember Gordon Wozniak