Kriss Worthington
Councilmember, City of Berkeley, District 7
2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704
PHONE 510-981-7170 FAX 510-981-7177 kworthington@ci.berkeley.ca.us

CONSENT CALENDAR
September 17, 2012

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington
Councilmember Max Anderson
Councilmember Darryl Moore
Councilmember Jesse Arreguin

Subject: Proclamation in Honor of Bisexual Pride Day and Bi Visibility Day

RECOMMENDATION
Adopt a proclamation that September 23, 2013 is Bisexual Pride Day and Bi Visibility Day in Berkeley.

BACKGROUND
Officially known as Celebrate Bisexuality Day, Bisexual Pride Day is celebrated every year on September 23 in recognition of the bisexual community and their supporters. Bisexual Pride Day is a call for bisexual people, their friends and supporters to recognize and celebrate bisexuality history, bisexual community and culture, and the bisexual people in their lives.

The annual event first started back in 1999 by three bisexual rights activists and once took hold mainly in areas with a strong bisexual presence and is now celebrated worldwide. The bisexual community has grown in strength over time but in many ways is still invisible.

Bisexual pride is separate from the mainstream LGBT events and bisexuality has its own identity apart from being straight or gay. Bisexuals may be attracted to not one, but both genders. There are often negative and inaccurate connotations inaccurately associated with bisexual people. The goal is to increase awareness and understanding bisexuality as a sexuality of its own.

This celebration of bisexuality in particular, as distinct from general LGBT events, was conceived as a response to the prejudice and marginalization of the bisexual persons by some in both the straight and greater LGBT communities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
None.

CONTACT PERSON
Councilmember Kriss Worthington 510-981-7170

Attachments:
1. Proclamation in Declaration of Bisexual Pride and Bi Visibility Day in the City of Berkeley.

HONOR BISEXUAL PRIDE AND BI VISIBILITY DAY
IN THE CITY OF BERKELEY

WHEREAS, the leaders of Berkeley are committed to speaking out in support of the bisexual community in search of tolerance for all; and

WHEREAS, Bisexual Pride and Bi Visibility Day has been established by the bisexual community as an effort to further this goal of tolerance and awareness; and

WHEREAS, the bisexual community is one integral to our City, with business owners and residents alike who are proud to be a part of the bisexual community, but hope for greater visibility; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley has long demonstrated its support of the gay, lesbian, bi, and queer communities by such means as celebrating Pride Month, becoming the first city in the nation to establish a Domestic Partnership Registry, as well as LGBT Sensitivity Training for the Berkeley Police Department; and

WHEREAS, while many advancements have been made with respect to equitable acceptance of bisexual people in our nation, the bisexual community remains a distinct one from the gay community and seeks acceptance as such, making it important for the City of Berkeley to demonstrate support for the community individually; and

WHEREAS, the bisexual community has helped and continues to foster growth and acceptance in our City;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Berkeley hereby proclaims September 23rd 2013 to be

BISEXUAL AND BI VISIBILITY DAY IN THE CITY OF BERKELEY

and we urge all citizens to reflect now and throughout the year on the ways that we can all live with mutual understanding and compassion for all communities.

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