



Office of Councilmember  
**Max Anderson, District 3**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**  
May 23, 2005

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the  
City Council

FROM: Councilmember Max Anderson  
Councilmember Darryl Moore  
Councilmember Kriss Worthington

SUBJECT: Berkeley Juneteenth Festival 2006

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a Resolution to co-sponsor the Berkeley Juneteenth Festival on June 18, 2006 with the Berkeley Juneteenth Association, Inc. (BJAI).

**BACKGROUND:**

Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. From its Galveston, Texas origin in 1865, the observance of June 19<sup>th</sup> as the African American Emancipation Day has spread across the United States and beyond. The Emancipation Proclamation was signed on January 1, 1863, however, news of its signing did not reach slaves in Texas until June 19, 1865. June 19<sup>th</sup> was shortened to Juneteenth, a day of freedom, hope and change. Today, African American communities across the United States have adopted this freedom celebration as an opportunity to express and experience all contributions that African Americans have made to the American way of life.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

\* Estimate: \$20,000.00

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Councilmember Max Anderson 981-7130.

\* Exact amount ascertainable after the event.

**RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.**  
**Co-Sponsor the Twentieth Annual Juneteenth Festival By Providing  
In-Kind Fees and Services**

**WHEREAS**, the Berkeley Juneteenth Association, Inc. (BJAI) and the City of Berkeley are co-sponsoring the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Juneteenth Festival on Sunday, June 18, 2006 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Adeline Avenue between Ashby Avenue and Alcatraz Avenue; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration for ending slavery in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Berkeley Juneteenth Festival is the longest running Juneteenth observance in Northern California; and

**WHEREAS**, the Berkeley Juneteenth Festival highlights emerging talent, including music, food and crafts within the African American community. The Festival celebrates freedom, hope and change. The event is a reminder that the quest for freedom has been an ongoing, hard fought battle amongst us all; and

**WHEREAS**, the Berkeley City Council has consistently co-sponsored and provided in-kind and funding support for the Berkeley Juneteenth Festival; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Berkeley will provide the following services before, during and after the event: (a) personnel that includes Berkeley Police Department, Department of Public Works and the Department of Transportation, (b) necessary permits and insurance, (c) portable bathroom facilities (d) City staff to coordinate City services and act as liaison to the Festival Coordinator; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Berkeley recognizes the importance of the Juneteenth Festival and the contribution the festival makes to community life; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth is a day we honor and respect the sufferings of slavery, acknowledging the evils of slavery and its aftermath. Juneteenth is a day of reflection, a day of renewal. It is inclusive of all races, ethnicities and nationalities; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth is a day we commit to each other as family, friends and co-workers. It is a day we build coalitions that enhance all of our lives.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the City of Berkeley will co-sponsor the 2006 Juneteenth Festival and does hereby commend and express its appreciation to Berkeley Juneteenth Association, Inc. for their commitment to providing the community with this opportunity to celebrate African American history and culture.