To:   Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From:  Councilmember Kriss Worthington  
Subject: Proclamation in Honor of Transgender Law Center and its 11th Annual Celebration “SPARK!”

RECOMMENDATION:
Adopt a proclamation honoring Transgender Law Center and its 11th Annual Celebration “SPARK!”

BACKGROUND:
Founded in 2002, the Transgender Law Center (TLC) has been working to change law, policy, and attitudes so that all people can live safely, authentically, and free from discrimination regardless of their gender identity or expression.

They provide access and support for those in need of help in regards to California Transgender Law. The TLC provides resources and helps the transgender community in understanding rights as a transgender living in the state of California. These include employment, health care, civil rights, family law, identity documents, immigration, jails and prisons, public accommodations, and youth issues.

This year Transgender Law Center will be celebrating their 11th Annual Celebration “SPARK!” at the Sir Francis Drake, Empire Ballroom in San Francisco, CA on Thursday, October 3, 2013 beginning at 6 p.m. This year they will be honoring Shawna Virago, Kortney Ryan Ziegler, Lisa Mottet, Drs. Judith Lively, Jennifer Slovis, and Susanne Watson for their great efforts and commitment in supporting the transgender community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:
None.

CONTACT PERSON:
Councilmember Kriss Worthington  510-981-7170.  
Audrey Oh  audreyoh1234@berkeley.edu

Attachment:
1.   Proclamation Honoring Transgender Law Center
In Honor of Transgender Law Center

WHEREAS, The efforts of Transgender Law Center have greatly contributed to the recognition of the constitutional rights of transgender individuals residing in California and have become pioneers in their field. This year they will be celebrating “SPARK!,” their 11th anniversary celebration and will be honoring Shawna Virago, Kortney Ryan Ziegler, Lisa Mottet, Drs. Judith Lively, Jennifer Slovis, and Susanne Watson; and

WHEREAS, Shawna Virago will be receiving the Vanguard Award for her efforts in leading when nobody else could or did lead. She has become a key voice in Transgender Law Center’s inception; and

WHEREAS, Kortney Ryan Ziegler will be receiving the Inaugural Authentic Life Award for bringing visibility to the diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, Lisa Mottet will be receiving the Ally Award for her dedication and commitment in improving the lives of countless people through advocacy and mentorship; and

WHEREAS, The Community Partner award will be given to Drs. Judith Lively, Jennifer Slovis, and Susanne Watson for pioneering systems and programs that better serve transgender patients at Kaiser Permanente of Northern California; and

WHEREAS, The Transgender Law Center has provided outstanding professional advice and guidance to the City of Berkeley in helping to create transgender health benefits to employees; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Berkeley City Council recognize and proclaim

October 3rd, 2013 AS TRANSGENDER LAW CENTER DAY

___________________ _____________________  _____________________
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