



**IN HONOR OF BETTY REID SOSKIN**

**WHEREAS,** Betty Reid Soskin's Berkeley contributions include founding, along with her then husband Mel Reid, the black-owned Reid's Records on Sacramento Street that still serves Bay Area community, specializing in traditional and contemporary gospel music and church supplies; as well as serving as a field representative for California State Assemblywomen Dion Aroner and Loni Hancock; and


**WHEREAS,** On a national scale, Betty Reid Soskin became involved in the early planning stages and development of a park to memorialize the role of women on the Home Front during World War II, and in 2000 the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historic Park was established to provide a site where future generations could remember the contributions women made to the war effort; and

**WHEREAS,** Betty Reid, now the oldest Park Ranger with the National Parks Service, leads tours and gives lectures at the Park in Richmond, where she tells guests about the women who worked in the Richmond Kaiser shipyards during World War II building cargo ships; and

**WHEREAS,** Betty Reid Soskin has been honored numerous times: as 1995 California Woman of the Year by the California Legislature; as special guest of US Representative George Miller to President Obama's inauguration; with an honorary doctorate from the California College of the Arts in 2010; and by introducing President Obama and First Lady Michelle to the nation during the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony in Washington, DC in 2015.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Tom Bates, Mayor of the City of Berkeley do hereby honor the extraordinary

**Betty Reid Soskin.**

  
Tom Bates  
Mayor



February 26, 2016