



Kathryn Harrison
Councilmember District 4

CONSENT CALENDAR
June 27, 2017

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmembers Harrison and Davila
Subject: Persian New Year Festival: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds to General Fund and Grant of Such Funds

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$250 per Councilmember including \$250 from Councilmember Harrison, to support the Persian New Year Festival on March 13, 2018 with funds relinquished to the City's general fund for this purpose so that the City of Berkeley is able to invite and support the community on this event from Councilmember Harrison's Council Office Budgets and any other Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No General Fund Impact; \$250 is available from available from contributing Councilmember's Council Office Budget discretionary accounts.

BACKGROUND

The Persian New Year Festival, Chahar-Shanbeh Souri, takes place annually on the last Tuesday night of winter out on the street in front of the Persian Center, 2029 Durant Avenue in Berkeley from 6-10pm. The event, which will be in its 19th year, keeps growing and more than 6,500 people attended the festival this past year. This is the 25th Anniversary of the establishment of the Persian Center in Berkeley which is cause for great celebration.

The Persian Center is a non-profit, charitable 501(c3) organization whose mission is to create an environment in which to conduct social, cultural, educational, and recreational activities designed to strengthen the sense of identity and integrity of all Iranians and Iranian descendants, and to engage individuals interested in or related to Persian community and culture. It is one of a few secular Persian organizations in the United States.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Consistent with Berkeley's Environmental Sustainability Goals and no negative impact.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Harrison, Council District 4, 510-981-7140

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

PERSIAN NEW YEAR FESTIVAL: RELINQUISHMENT OF COUNCIL OFFICE
BUDGET FUNDS TO GENERAL FUND AND GRANT OF SUCH FUNDS

WHEREAS, Councilmember Kate Harrison has surplus funds in her office expenditure account (budget code 010-0272-410); and

WHEREAS, a Berkeley non-profit, charitable 501(c3) organization the Persian Center seeks funds for the following public services of Persian music, food, and craft vendors, cultural organizations, and children's activities; and

WHEREAS, the mission of this festival is to create an environment in which to conduct social, cultural, educational, and recreational activities designed to strengthen the sense of identity and integrity of all Iranians and Iranian descendants, and to engage individuals interested in or related to Persian community and culture; and

WHEREAS, the event, which will be in its 19th year, keeps growing and more than 6,500 people attended the festival this past year; and

WHEREAS, this is the 25th Anniversary of the establishment of the Persian Center in Berkeley.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the funds relinquished by the Mayor and Councilmembers from their Council Office Budget up to \$250 per office shall be granted to the Persian New Year Festival.