

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING

Save the Bay

Upon Its

50th Anniversary

WHEREAS, San Francisco Bay is a unique estuary through which waters from three rivers flow, draining approximately 40 percent of California; actually comprising three bays - Suisun, San Pablo and San Francisco - the 1,600-square-mile waterway is the largest of its kind on the Pacific coasts of North and South America; and

WHEREAS, in addition to its importance to commerce and transportation in a major urban center, the bay is a complex, living ecosystem providing food and habitat to wildlife from myriad plants to phytoplankton to shrimp to finfish and shellfish to birds and mammals; and

WHEREAS, since Spanish explorer Gaspar de Portolà recorded the first European sighting of the bay in November 1769, settlement and development through the 1960s had left the waters choked with sewage and industrial waste; in 1961, the public had access to less than six miles of shoreline; and

WHEREAS, that same year, Kay Kerr, Sylvia McLaughlin and Esther Gulick founded the Save San Francisco Bay Association to stop Berkeley's bayfill-based expansion plans; the women's success mobilized countless thousands to help reverse bay destruction, and over the next 50 years, Save the Bay focused on ensuring that the bay is protected, maintained and cherished as an irreplaceable international treasure; and

WHEREAS, more than 250 miles of publicly-accessible shoreline now ring the bay, while work continues to prevent inappropriate shoreline development; restore 100,000 acres of wetlands and helping future generations understand that vigilance is key.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County congratulates Save the Bay on its 50th anniversary. The Board expresses its gratitude and extends sincere wishes for at least another five decades of continued success and excellence.

Dated: NOVEMBER 3, 2011

SUPERVISORS:

CAROLE GROOM, PRESIDENT

DAVE PINE

DON HORSLEY

ROSE JACOBS GIBSON

ADRIENNE J. TISSIER

Attest: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors