



City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve

Office of Gerrie Schipske
Councilwoman, Fifth District
Memorandum
R-16

Date: April 3, 2012

To: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

From: Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske, Fifth District *GS*
Councilwoman Rae Gabelich, Eight District *RG*
Councilman Patrick O'Donnell, Fourth District *PO*

Subject: **AGENDA ITEM: Recognition of National Library Workers' Day**
April 10, 2012

DISCUSSION: In Long Beach, we are fortunate to have public, academic, school, governmental, and specialized libraries providing provide excellent and invaluable service to library users regardless of age, ethnicity, or socioeconomic background. Our libraries provide thousands of people with the knowledge and information they need to live, learn and work in the 21st Century. Librarians and library support staff bring our city a world of knowledge in person and online, as well as personal service and expert assistance in finding what is needed when it is needed.

It is important to recognize the unique contributions of all library workers and the value to individuals and society of those contributions. Librarians and other library workers are important participants in public policy discussions on key issues, such as intellectual freedom, equity of access, and narrowing the digital divide. Libraries, library workers, and library supporters across America are celebrating April 10, 2012 as National Library Workers' Day sponsored by the American Library Association-Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA).

In addition to proclaiming April 10, 2012 as National Library Workers Day, the City Council should encourage our residents to participate in acknowledging our librarians and staff by nominating "star" library employees for public recognition on the national website of the National Library Workers Day. Anyone may nominate a "Star" library worker or team for creativity, enthusiasm, customer service or that special something they add to a library. Stars can be nominated by going on line to the National Library Workers Day website: [www.http://ala-apa.org/nlwd/](http://ala-apa.org/nlwd/). New nominations will be showcased in the Galaxy of Stars on the NLWD website each week.

We need to encourage everyone to take a moment on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 to thank our library workers for the services they provide and to remind ourselves that libraries provide vital services each and every day. Libraries in Long Beach work because library workers do!

Recommendation: By motion, the City Council proclaim Tuesday, April 10, 2012, as "National Library Workers Day" and encourage all in this community to take advantage of the variety of library resources available and to thank library workers for their exceptional contributions to American life.

Fiscal Impact: None.