



Legislation Text

File #: 06-0139, **Version:** 1

Recommendation to request City Manager to work with Long Beach Transit to implement the Rosa Parks Montgomery Bus Boycott Tribute on Long Beach Transit buses.

On October 24, 2005, civil rights icon Mrs. Rosa Parks died. She is universally recognized as an historic and courageous figure, whose action of refusing to give up her seat for a White man inspired the Montgomery Bus Boycott and was a pivotal event in the modern civil rights movement in the United States. Mrs. Parks' actions changed the course of history for millions of Americans of all races and ethnicities. Her courage and impact on history serve as an example for all people about the power that an individual can have on society. Throughout her life, Rosa Parks continued to encourage and motivate others to "live their life as a model for others".

February has been traditionally designated as Black History Month. I believe that this would be a meaningful and appropriate time to sponsor a tribute to Mrs. Parks on public transportation vehicles serving the City of Long Beach.

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation, the MTA and the Foothill Transit Company have enacted tributes to Rosa Parks on the busses that they operate. These tributes have included special commemorative interior cards and/or the designation of a special "empty" seat. Examples of the interior card and the seat sign are attached.

Ideally, the tribute will include both interior cards and an "empty" seat tribute. The cooperative relationship between Long Beach Transit, MTA and other regional transit agencies could facilitate implementation and expedite the production or acquisition of tribute materials.

Approve recommendation.