

*The Board of Supervisors of
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2021/276

Honoring the remarkable public service career of Richmond City Councilmember Nathaniel Rubin "Nat" Bates on his 90th Birthday

Whereas, Nathaniel "Nat" Bates is the longest-serving elected official in the history of the City of Richmond; and

Whereas, Nat Bates has lived in Richmond since 1942, having arrived in Richmond that year via train from Texas to join his mother, who worked at the Santa Fe Railroad Station in Richmond, on Macdonald Avenue; and

Whereas, Nat Bates went on to serve in the U.S. Army in Korea from 1953-55, play professional baseball in Canada, earn an education at both San Francisco State University and California State University, Hayward (now called CSU East Bay), and work for the Alameda County Probation Department for 35 years, where he counseled young offenders before retiring as a Probation Supervisor; and

Whereas, Nat Bates was one of the first African-Americans to win a local election in the Bay Area, having been first elected to a six-year term on the Richmond City Council in 1967; and

Whereas, Nat Bates has went on to win an unprecedented 9 elections in the City of Richmond, and was appointed to serve as Mayor twice, once in 1971-72 and again in 1976-77; and

Whereas, Nat Bates served as a National League of Cities Board Director from 1976–1980 and has held a lifetime appointment to the National League of Cities Advisory Board since 1980, and was the first African American to serve as the Contra Costa County Mayor's Conference Chair in 1978, and served as President of the East Bay League of Cities, and served as a member of the Board of Directors of the League of California Cities, and served as Chairman of the Public Safety Committee and the National League of Cities; and

Whereas, Nat Bates holds the distinguished honor of currently being the oldest elected public official to hold elected office in the United States; and

Whereas, Nat Bates with his late wife, Shirley Christine Adams Bates, raised four children.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby honor and thank Richmond City Councilmember Nathaniel Rubin "Nat" Bates for an unprecedented career in public service and wishes him a very happy 90th birthday on September 9, 2021.

DIANE BURGIS

Chair, District III Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA
District I Supervisor

CANDACE ANDERSEN
District II Supervisor

KAREN MITCHOFF
District IV Supervisor

FEDERAL D. GLOVER
District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an
action taken
and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on
the date
shown.

ATTESTED: September 7, 2021

Monica Nino, County Administrator

By: _____, Deputy