

1 [Ortega Branch Library Grand Opening - September 10, 2011]

2

3 **Resolution recognizing the grand opening of the new Ortega Branch Library and**  
4 **commending the San Francisco Public Library and its team for their hard work and**  
5 **commitment to San Francisco and its residents.**

6

7 WHEREAS, The Branch Library Improvement Program (BLIP), funded by the bond  
8 measure passed in November 2000 by the voters of San Francisco, calls for sixteen branches  
9 to be renovated, four leased facilities to be replaced with City-owned buildings, three  
10 branches to be replaced with new buildings, and one brand-new branch to be constructed in  
11 Mission Bay; and,

12 WHEREAS, The original Ortega Branch Library was the 24th branch established in the  
13 San Francisco Public Library system, having been opened in 1956 as part of a “civic center”  
14 for Sunset District residents that included open space and community facilities; and,

15 WHEREAS, Because of the increased service needs from adjacent schools, the desire  
16 to make the branch more visible from the street, the community support for a new branch, and  
17 the difficulty meeting the service needs with a renovation, the Library decided to build a new  
18 9,300 square foot branch library on the same site; and

19 WHEREAS, Library services continued during construction in “Mini Ortega,” a  
20 temporary library site adjacent to the Recreation Center; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, Highlights of the new library include a large expandable state of the art  
23 program room with after-hours access for community meetings; a designated teen area; a  
24 children’s area with interactive learning spaces; an expanded collection of books and  
25 materials with a large Chinese-language collection; more public computers; a rear courtyard

1 with an ocean view; more functional staff spaces; new computers; wireless access to the  
2 internet; and a Green Roof; and,

3 WHEREAS, The branch has been designed to meet Leadership in Energy and  
4 Environmental Design (LEED) silver certification or greater by the U.S. Green Building Council  
5 and includes green features such as a living roof, an energy efficient heating system, operable  
6 windows for ventilation, low VOC and sustainable finishes, drought-tolerant and native  
7 species landscaping, recycled construction materials, and permeable courtyard pavers; and

8 WHEREAS, The artist team *Wowhaus*, under direction of the San Francisco Arts  
9 Commission, created a large-scale shimmering glass mosaic sculpture of two fish titled  
10 *Abundance*, as the public art project for the new branch; and,

11  
12 WHEREAS, The new library has been a team effort between the San Francisco Public  
13 Library staff and administrators, Department of Public Works Project Management Bureau,  
14 Bureau of Architecture, Bureau of Engineering, Bureau of Construction Management, and  
15 Operations Division, Library Commissioners, Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, and  
16 members of the community who raised funds and helped design the branch to suit their  
17 neighborhood's needs; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors commends the San Francisco Public  
19 Library, the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, the Department of Public Works,  
20 members of the Sunset community, and the entire team for their dedication and hard work;  
21 and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors invites the public to join the  
23 celebration of the dedication of the new Ortega Branch Library on Saturday, September 10,  
24 2011 at 11:00 am at 3223 Ortega at 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue.