

County of Ventura, Second District Supervisor

Whereas, Linda Parks was first elected as Second District County Supervisor in November 2002 and has served the residents of Ventura County in this role from January 2003 through December 2022. She is the 5^{th} longest-serving board member in Ventura County history; and

Whereas, prior to her election to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Parks served as a Planning Commissioner, City Council member, and Mayor for the City of Thousand Oaks; and

Whereas, as a city official, Supervisor Parks sponsored the "Parks Initiative" that preserves open space and parkland in Thousand Oaks; she wrote the City's first campaign reform law, founded the Ventura County Discovery Center, and initiated the annual Thousand Oaks Earth Day/Arbor Day Celebration; and

Whereas, Supervisor Parks is an open space advocate, she is one of the organizing directors of the countywide SOAR campaign, which was successful in creating a law to protect open space and farmland in addition to establishing urban boundary limits around county cities; and

Whereas, Supervisor Parks has been a staunch champion of the environment, she helped establish some of the strongest environmental justice policies in the nation by requiring 2,500' setbacks between oil wells and schools. Supervisor Parks developed a requirement for the County to oversee the planting of I,000 trees a year to combat global warming; and

Whereas, during her tenure, Supervisor Parks has created parks and trails in her district including a sixteen-year effort that culminated in the purchase of Ahmanson Ranch as a State Park and helped secure two million dollars from a landfill operator for the purchase of parkland; and

Whereas, as a member of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Supervisor Parks has been a strong, visionary advocate for the Liberty Canyon Wildlife Bridge and encourages another at the Conejo Grade. She also initiated a first-of-its-kind wildlife corridor overlay zone that is currently being processed to be added into Ventura County's General Plan to protect major linkages for wildlife migration; and

Whereas, Supervisor Parks has taken a leadership role in providing transportation alternatives that have reduced congested roadways, including starting up the Kanan Shuttle, a free popular route with students and residents in Oak Park, adding a signalized crosswalk for school children in Newbury Park, establishing synchronized traffic signals for increased safety in Santa Rosa Valley, and brought a bike lane to Potrero Road in Hidden Valley that protects cyclists and commuters; and

Whereas, Supervisor Parks has helped lead fiscal policy to establish a I5% reserve fund that has taken our County from no reserves at the beginning of her tenure on the Board of Supervisors to today with over \$100 million in reserve funds; and

Whereas, Supervisor Parks has been a longitime advocate for those with mental illness, representing the County on its Behavioral Health Advisory Board for over fifteen years. She supported a working group that reduced jail recidivism for people with mental illness and encouraged greater options for treatment including Horizon View and a Children's Crisis Stabilization Unit. In the wake of the Borderline Bar and Grill mass shooting, Supervisor Parks created the Mental Health and Safety Task Force to find opportunities to strengthen crisis services and public safety which has become a blueprint for enhanced services. Her vision and initiative brought forward the non-profit drought-tolerant nursery, Growing Works, that provides horticultural therapy and job training for people with mental health challenges; and

Whereas, Supervisor Parks is also coordinating collaboration for new development on the County's Lewis Road property with plans that include a mental health rehabilitation center, housing for vulnerable populations including older adults with mental health challenges, and a 2-acre County Park for disadvantaged residents nearby; and

Whereas, Supervisor Parks has championed quality of life issues, setting policy on the Board of Supervisors, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Air Pollution Control Board, Clean Power Alliance, California State University Channel Islands Site Authority, Ventura Local Agency Formation Commission, Ventura County Transportation Commission, and Ventura County Public Financing Authority; and

Whereas, Supervisor Linda Parks' legacy in leadership and work to improve the lives of residents in Ventura County, has been recognized by many public and private organizations. She has been honored with the "2019 National Phoenix Award" for disaster recovery by the U.S. Small Business Administration, the "Justice for Victims Award" by the Ventura County District Attorney's office, the "Environmental Hero Award, 2017" by the Sierra Club Los Padres Chapter, a 2017 Santa Monica Mountains Jund (SAMO) Honoree, "Paul Harris Fellowship Award" by the Rotary Club of Thousand Oaks Sunrise, the Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation "2012 Cilizen of the Year Award," the Carla Bard "Environmental Integrity in Public Service Award" from the Environmental Defense Center, the "Walk the Talk Award" from Heal the Bay, the "Edward L. Masry Integrity in Community Service Award," and was the 2014 Honorary Chair of the annual National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Walk.

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved that we, the Ventura County Board of Supervisors hereby honor the distinguished career and legacy of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks and express our sincere gratitude for her twenty years of public service and leadership in Ventura County and wish her much happiness and success in the coming years.

Presented This $I3^{th}$ Day of December 2022

Chair of the Board of Supervisors

Matt La Vere Supervisor 1st District

Robert O. Huber, Supervisor 4th District