



CITY COUNCIL
Linda Maio

05

CONSENT CALENDAR
February 10, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Councilmembers Linda Maio and Darryl Moore

SUBJECT: Naming of the South Berkeley Library for Tarea Hall Pittman

RECOMMENDATION:

Request that the Library Board of Trustees consider naming the South Berkeley Library for Tarea Hall Pittman

BACKGROUND:

There is a community effort to name the South Berkeley Library in honor of Tarea Hall Pitman. Here is a snapshot of her accomplishments from the materials being circulated, primarily sourced various documents (see below). Tarea Hall Pitman accomplished the following, among other things, and was a recognized leader in Berkeley:

- Organized west coast branches of the National Negro Congress and helped create the Negro Education Council
- Founded and served for 42 years as radio show host of "Negroes in the News" on KDIA
- Organized protests at Kaiser Shipyards and other industries resulting in the hire of African Americans
- Director, West Coast Region of NAACP 1961-1965
- Helped desegregate the Oakland Fire Department
- Lobbied for the California Fair Employment Practice bill, signed into law in 1959

Ms. Pittman was considered a community leader in Berkeley for many years and members of the community who have her and her accomplishments in their memory have determined that the naming of the South Berkeley Library would be a fitting tribute to her legacy.

(Sources: Encyclopedia of Immigration and Migration in the American West; Tarea Hall Pittman, Joyce A. Henderson, Earl Warren Oral History Project; NAACP Official and Civil Rights Worker: An Interview (Bancroft Library); Struggle for Racial Equality in the West, 1900-1954, University Press of Kansas). More references:
<http://blackpast.org/aaw/pittman-tarea-hall-10093-1991#sthash.Kvaccessx.douf>)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Minimal

CONTACT:

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