



OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR



London N. Breed, Mayor
Naomi M. Kelly, City Administrator

January 12, 2021

The Honorable London N. Breed
Mayor, City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 200
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mayor Breed:

I write to inform you of my intention to resign as City Administrator effective February 1, 2021. In light of recent public allegations, based on the false statements of an admitted liar, I must step aside to focus on my family and to allow City Administrator's Office to function without distraction. As a dedicated public servant, I am deeply saddened to tender my resignation in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis for which the City Administrator's Office has a vital role. However, I know, that this is the right decision for San Francisco, for my family, and especially for my two children who have been devastated by these allegations.

I have served the City and County of San Francisco loyally and faithfully for more than 20 years. It has been my honor to serve in a variety of capacities, alongside five different mayors, scores of elected and appointed officials, and countless frontline city workers. I am proud to say I worked my way up from legislative analyst to City Administrator, the highest-ranking non-elected official in San Francisco government, the first African American and first woman to serve in this capacity. Throughout it all, I have conducted myself with integrity and absolute dedication to those whom I serve, the people of San Francisco, and those whom I serve with, my fellow public servants and especially my team in the City Administrator's Office.

As City Administrator, I have managed, together with my team, 25 departments, divisions, and programs, and been responsible for a 2,700-strong workforce, and an annual budget of \$700 million. My team and I have capably overseen San Francisco's \$35 billion 10-year capital plan – a national model that has led to massive infrastructure investment while protecting taxpayers and maintaining San Francisco's excellent bond ratings.

Throughout my tenure as City Administrator, my team and I have been challenged to expeditiously create new departments, new divisions and new programs with no blueprint on how to set-up or operate. Recent examples include the Office of Short-term Rentals and the Office of Cannabis. In 2012, I launched the Local Hire program roll-out that added 145,000 jobs in San

Francisco. Unemployment dropped from 9.6% that year to 3.7% by 2019. I am most proud of the work my colleagues and I have performed in response to the greatest challenges of our times. In the past two years, my team and I successfully led the efforts to pass infrastructure bonds to address the effects of climate change and sea level rise and to bolster our city's earthquake resiliency. And perhaps most importantly, this year, my team and I launched and supervised the City's COVID-19 logistical response, which has been recognized as one of the most effective in the country.

I also helped spearhead and serve on the board of the San Francisco Community Investment Fund, which has deployed more than \$165 million to help fund nonprofits in our city, such as SF Jazz, the Boys and Girls Club, American Conservatory Theatre, the Manufacturing Foundry, Geneva Car Barn, Meals on Wheels, and many more.

I leave City service in the knowledge that I leave a City Administrator's Office stronger and more accomplished than when I arrived. And I am comforted knowing that I leave the office in the capable hands of an excellent staff, made up of consummate professionals, who will continue the important work ahead.

Public service is as a sacred trust and a sacred task, a profound responsibility. And make no mistake, I have held up my end of this covenant.

As I look ahead to a new phase in my career, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve.

Sincerely,



Naomi M. Kelly
City Administrator

CC: President Shamann Walton, Board of Supervisors
Ken Bukowski, Jennifer Johnston, Chanda Ikeda, Office of the City Administrator