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**CITY OF TEMPE**  
**REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Council Meeting Date: 4/10/2014**  
**Agenda Item: 5C3**

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**ACTION:** Adopt a resolution designating a bus shelter in honor of Tempe civic leader, Mary O'Connor. (Resolution No. R2014.31)

**FISCAL IMPACT:** There will be no fiscal impact to the City.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt Resolution No. R2014.31.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Pursuant to City resolution, the Mayor referred a naming request to the Tempe Transportation Commission who recommended that the City designate in honor of former Tempe employee Mary O'Connor, the bus shelter that is located on the south side of Fifth Street and in front of Tempe City Hall.

Mary O'Connor enjoyed a successful career in transportation at the City of Tempe from 1990 to 2004. She held several titles at the City of Tempe including Transportation Planner, Transportation Planning Administrator and Transit Manager and, among other accomplishments, implemented the Tempe in Motion plan, which included:

- adding late evening and weekend bus and dial-a-ride service
- planning and implementing the first neighborhood circulator route
- creating an alternatively-fueled fleet
- implementing the regional light rail project
- adding bikeways
- building neighborhood pedestrian facilities
- promoting all facets of the transit program through an award winning marketing program

From 1996 through 2003, transit ridership increased from 1.2 million to 7.1 million boardings. Clearly, under Mary's leadership, Tempe's transportation programs enhanced the well-being and quality of life for Tempe residents. She was also passionate about city government having devoted most of her career to working in municipalities, and she was dedicated to her community, serving on the board of directors for the Tempe Community Council and Friends of the Tempe Center for the Arts. Mary was also active in the Women's Transportation Seminar, the US Access Board, and the American Public Works Association. Mary passed away in 2010.

Mary's passion for transit inspired a group of her friends to approach the City with the idea of modifying an existing bus shelter in order to memorialize Mary. The proposed modification, based on a design concept created by John Kane with Architekton, uses a crisscrossed, metal-like plastic shaped into a pattern of open hands representing Mary's generosity and incorporates Mary's image. In addition, a plaque describing Mary's contributions to Tempe will be installed on the side of the shelter.

The design of the shelter was donated by Architekton and all construction fees for the plaque at the shelter and the shelter reconstruction will be paid for by Tempe Community Chest, a 501C3 organization.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Resolution

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