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MOTION

AUG 23 2013

Dr. Gene H. Kim was born on September 29, 1933 in City of Pyong Yang to a prominent and well-respected family at a time of Japanese occupation of the Korean peninsula.

Upon Arriving in the U.S. in 1968, Dr. Kim initially worked various odd jobs to support his family and in 1971 he opened a small bookstore on Olympic Boulevard between Kingsley and Harvard Avenues called "Korean Book Center." The following year Dr. Kim founded the Koreatown Development Association and in 1974 under his leadership the Koreatown Development Association staged its first "Koreatown Festival and Parade."

Dr. Kim was also instrumental in the campaign for English-Korean dual language signs on businesses in Koreatown, the locating of CSULA Koreatown extension classes to teach English to first generation Korean immigrants, the designation of "Korea Day" by the City of Los Angeles, the official designation of the "Koreatown" area of Los Angeles as well as the adoption of the Koreatown Specific Plan, the establishment of the first LAPD Koreatown sub-station, and the installation of a Koreatown sign on the Santa Monica Freeway.

On May 24, 1984, Dr. Gene H. Kim recognized in the Congressional Record in recognition of his many outstanding contributions and accomplishments for the benefit of people of Los Angeles and for exemplifying outstanding leadership as a Korean American community leader of Southern California.

Dr. Kim also served for 18 years as a member of Los Angeles County Commission on Aging, and as a commissioner on the Los Angeles Police Permit Review Panel for 13 years.

There have, no doubt, been many leaders who have lent their capable leadership, unyielding passion, extraordinary vision and outstanding talents in making all the achievements of Koreatown and the Korean American community of Los Angeles. However, Dr. Gene Kim uniquely stands alone for having been a constant and unceasing leader and a guiding presence for the past 40 years from the very start in 1972.

In recognition of Dr. Gene Kim's remarkable service to the community, and in marking this year the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of founding of the Koreatown Festival and Parade, it is appropriate that the City honor him by naming the intersection at Olympic Boulevard and Vermont Avenue as "Dr. Gene Kim Square."

I THEREFORE MOVE that the intersection at Olympic Boulevard and Vermont Avenue be named as "Dr. Gene Kim Square," and that the Department of Transportation be directed to erect permanent ceremonial sign(s) to this effect at this location.

PRESENTED BY:

*Herb J. Wesson, Jr.*  
HERB J. WESSON, Jr.  
Councilman, 10<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:

*John O'Farrell*

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AUG 23 2013  
*[Signature]*

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