


PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 17-1060

Celebrating and Thanking David Broadwell for Eighteen Years of Outstanding Legal Service to the City and County of Denver Upon his Retirement

WHEREAS, David Broadwell has been a loyal public servant in the state of Colorado for more than 35 years, including making history as the then-youngest City Attorney in the state when he was appointed in Glenwood Springs at the age of 28, brief service in the City of Arvada, and seven years of service at the Colorado Municipal League; but

WHEREAS, he also always remained a proud Tar Heel after being raised in Fayetteville, North Carolina, and cutting his teeth as a first-time municipal attorney in Carrboro, NC, where his distinguished legacy began with a wheelchair ramp and an ordinance for the preservation of trees; and

WHEREAS, David is most known for his workhorse approach to the job of Assistant City Attorney over his 18-year career with the City and County of Denver, taking pride in his work but sitting quietly in the back of most rooms while appointees or elected officials took center stage, yet he stepped up and shined when called upon, taking the mic when asked by Council members, defending the City as a trial attorney, and taking the reins as acting City Attorney at least once; and

WHEREAS, David is beloved for his 14 years of service as our City Council liaison, which when multiplied by the 30 Councilmembers he served, counts as closer to 420 years of actual service, which he handled with grace and unparalleled integrity, serving as a loyal advisor and legislative drafter for each individual Council member, even when we disagreed and he had to represent us at the same time, while at the same time maintaining the highest standards of adherence to the City Charter and law and always with an eye to the protection of the City and the City Council as an institution; and

WHEREAS, David is a scholar and one of the foremost masters of the fundamentals of Colorado municipal law, including his passionate and effective defense of Home Rule powers and the nuances of navigating innovative public finance under TABOR; and

WHEREAS, Denver has also benefited from his penchant for creativity and innovation as evidenced by a legacy of drafting ordinances of first impression and many that have become models nationally, including the first and several subsequent regulatory schemes to govern legal marijuana, a razor-sharp local approach to the construction defect issue, a one-of-a-kind dually funded dedicated housing fund, the pending Tourism Improvement District, and a bill to disentangle Denver from immigration enforcement; and

WHEREAS, David is an excellent writer and oral communicator, who has also mastered a complex form of non-verbal communication through exquisite facial expressions, that would preclude his success in the game of poker, but which often served to save us from ourselves by alerting attentive Councilmembers when we've gone off the deep end or when it's time to stop talking and let him chime in; and

WHEREAS, David is an incredible athlete who often combined his multi-modal penchant with his love of the city as he drove, biked or ran through various parts of the city while contemplating the implications of the policy debate of the day on different neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, David is a good man, a great friend, and a mentor whose encyclopedic knowledge, brilliance, memory, analytical skills, patience, and kindness have helped Council to understand the city, its laws, and our roles; and

WHEREAS; David is also a dedicated and loved father and husband who often sacrificed time with his family to meet the high demands of public service, but did so in a way that never left his wife Carol, of 26 years, in doubt that he was always most committed to them; and

WHEREAS, we are forever indebted to David for his personal and professional talents and contributions, and are only comforted in our sadness over his departure by the knowledge that once he crosses the Rubicon to retirement, he deeply deserves the break to travel, run, pedal, enjoy craft beers, and to have total control over the future sharing of his talents, should he, as we suspect, not remain fully retired for long.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER THAT:

Section 1. The Council hereby recognizes and thanks David Broadwell for his 18 years of service to the City, and his 14 years of service specifically to the City Council, and wishes him a wonderful retirement.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be delivered to David Broadwell.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL September 25, 2017



PRESIDENT