


PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. CP20-1467 Honoring the Life of Denver Councilwoman Cathy Reynolds

WHEREAS, Cathy Reynolds, born Cathleen Lou Carter in Kansas City, Mo., was elected in May 1975 as an At-Large Member of the Denver City Council, the first woman to be elected to this body; and

WHEREAS, as a 16-year old student at Shawnee Mission North High School in Overland Park, Kan., Cathy met and dated 17-year-old Rick Reynolds, and they remained in love together throughout their lives, marrying on June 5, 1965, and having two sons, Robert and Matthew; and

WHEREAS, Cathy and Rick Reynolds moved to Denver in 1966 when Rick was hired by Denver Public Schools, and Cathy soon involved herself in politics, running unsuccessfully for the state legislature before winning her council seat in 1975, to which she was re-elected in 1979, 1983, 1987, 1991, 1995 and 1999, coming in first each time and ultimately serving the longest tenure of any council member in the history of this city, a public service spanning 28 years and two weeks; and

WHEREAS, she was chosen by her colleagues to lead the Council as President a record four terms and part of a fifth term, and as President Pro Tem a record eight terms; and

WHEREAS; her leadership abilities were tapped by numerous other organizations including the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District Board on which she served for all 28 years of her council tenure and which she chaired for 23 consecutive years; the Colorado Municipal League, for which she served twice as president; and the National League of Cities, for which she served as president for one year; and

WHEREAS, Cathy Reynolds was a leader in many other community, state and national organizations including Colorado Counties Inc., Denver Regional Council of Governments, Denver Labor Relations Task Force, Denver Anti-Crime Council, the Justice Center Task Force, and the Denver Center for the Performing Arts; and

WHEREAS, her impact on Denver is unmistakable, with a policy legacy that includes leading roles in establishing a stable funding source for services for individuals with developmental disabilities, passing non-discrimination ordinances that continue to protect Denver citizens; banning certain types of assault weapons; amending the city's most restrictive zoning that had prevented unmarried or gay couples from living together in Denver's most exclusive neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Cathy Reynolds contributed to the quality of life in Denver by her participation in bringing Major League Baseball and the National Hockey League to the city; building Boettcher Concert Hall, the Colorado Convention Center and its associated hotel, the new Broncos Stadium, Coors Field, the Pepsi Center (now Ball Arena), and Denver International Airport, and

WHEREAS, a leader among leaders, Cathy Reynolds earned numerous awards for her public service including a Colorado Aids Project Leadership Recognition Award, a Friends of the River Award from the Platter River Greenway Foundation and induction into the Colorado Tourism Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, upon term limits in 2003, Cathy Reynolds continued to contribute to the City and County of Denver by serving as a charter member of both the Citizen's Oversight Board and the Convention Center Hotel Board,

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

Section 1. The Council of the City and County of Denver mourns the loss of one of its most notable members, recognizes her numerous accomplishments and honors her continuing legacy.

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's seal to this proclamation and that a copy shall be delivered to Rick Reynolds.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL December 7, 2020

PRESIDENT