PROCLAMATION

City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 22-0878
RECOGNIZING THE EXTRAORDINARY CAREER OF BRENDAN HANLON

WHEREAS this month marks the close to Brendan Hanlon's inspiring, 20-year career with the City and County of Denver; and

WHEREAS from his first day as a budget analyst with the city in 2002, and shortly thereafter as a fellow in Denver's Office of Accountability & Reform, to his last as Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Mayor, Brendan committed himself to the residents of Denver and the financial stability of the city; and

WHEREAS Brendan led work to integrate equity into the heart of the budget process – ensuring that every budget proposal considered impacts and benefits to communities of color, First Nation's people and other under resourced residents and abilities – including making processes available to people in multiple languages and in accessible formats

WHEREAS Brendan led the largest community outreach efforts ever undertaken by the Dept. of Finance, engaging thousands of residents in the process of developing GO bonds, prioritizing the city's American Rescue Plan Act funding, and launching the city's first participatory budgeting process

WHEREAS Brendan helped navigate city's finances successfully during the Great Recession and its recovery, as well as the COVID-19 economic recovery, helping to rebuild an inclusive, sustainable, economy that works for everyone; and

WHEREAS Brendan helped maintain the city's AAA General Obligation Bond rating across all three agencies – the highest achievable bond rating for governments and companies – for the last decade, affirming Denver's strong and sound financial management;

WHEREAS Brendan issued $10.4 billion of bonds to build and improve multitudes of capital projects all over the city, creating jobs and opportunities that improve the well-being of Denver residents; and

WHEREAS Brendan has tirelessly championed the importance of employee-driven continuous improvement as a cornerstone of good government, introducing the idea of process improvement training and being a founder of the nationally recognized Denver Peak Academy; and

WHEREAS Brendan was instrumental in establishing the Affordable Housing Fund and Linkage Fee fund, which together will create or preserve 6,000 affordable homes for low- to moderate-income families; and

WHEREAS Brendan was a crucial partner in passing the City's minimum wage ordinance, which addressed wage inequity and provided much needed support for tens of thousands of Denver residents; and

WHEREAS Brendan was a driving force behind the passage of ballot initiative 2A in 2012, removing the TABOR restriction in the City and allowing the City to pay for improvements to police, fire, streets, Denver Public Library, parks, after-school, and summer programs for children; and

WHEREAS Brendan was the mastermind of every creative solution to every financial problem the City faced; and

WHEREAS now that his commitments to the city will no longer require long nights and weekends, Brendan will now be able to enjoy more time with his beautiful family - wife Erica, their three children Finn, Cassidy, and Bridget. At least until the commute starts; and

WHEREAS Brendan left the City and County of Denver a better place for the community and City employees; and

WHEREAS and there will always be an echo of Brendan's laughter in the hallways he leaves behind, reminding us we can serve with grace and kindness, even in the midst of great challenges.

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

Sect. 1: That the Council of the City and County of Denver honors and thanks Brendan Hanlon for his remarkable service to the City of Denver.

Sect 2: That the Clerk of the City & County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation, and copies be delivered to Brendan Hanlon.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL July 25, 2022

_____ PRESIDENT