



Proclamation No. 23-0947

A Proclamation Recognizing Councilwoman Robin Kniech's Service to the City of Denver

WHEREAS, in 2011, Robin Kniech became the first out LGBTQ person elected to the Denver City Council, driven by her working-class Midwestern upbringing and dedicated to serving our city to deliver on promises to make it more equitable, inclusive and prosperous for all; and

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Kniech has been a strong voice and consistent advocate for worker rights and labor standards in the City and County of Denver and beyond, and leaves an impactful legacy of improved job standards and benefits for innumerable workers in Denver; and

WHEREAS, in her 12 years on Council, Councilwoman At-Large Kniech has a record of bold accomplishments that support access to and funding for affordable housing, good paying jobs, sustainability, police accountability and equity—only possible through her relentless work ethic and ability to work with anyone and everyone, building broad coalitions that transcended party and ideological boundaries with labor groups, mayoral administrations, environmental activist groups and public and private sector groups alike; and

WHEREAS, by 2030, housing initiatives she spearheaded will have invested approximately three-quarters of a billion dollars into housing and homelessness through: Denver's first-ever dedicated affordable housing fund, created in 2016 and doubled in 2018 to \$300 million in 10 years; and voter-approved ballot measure 2B that will reduce homelessness through \$40 million/year for expanded housing, improved shelter and wrap around services; and

WHEREAS, she launched an eviction defense pilot program, expanded housing protections against discrimination based on source of income, and sponsored the legislation legalizing Tiny Home Villages and helped champion Safe Outdoor Spaces to address gaps in the shelter-housing continuum for those experiencing unsheltered homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Kniech, in response to decades of lagging wages and rising housing costs, and in partnership with state and local government, as well as community, trailblazed a path toward establishing Colorado's first local minimum wage for the City and County of Denver, which helped all Denverites better make ends meet; and

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Kniech co-sponsored one of the strongest immigrant protection ordinances in the nation, limiting municipal cooperation with federal immigration enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Kniech championed Denver's first ever Participatory Budgeting Program, giving our community the power to decide how and where to invest \$2 million in our neighborhoods—funding nine crucial projects that will have a lasting impact; and

WHEREAS, Robin is savvy, smart and above all empathetic to the struggles of diverse folks in Denver and she is passionate about working hard to make this city a better place for everyone; she invites others to show up at their best and the result is exemplary work that people are both thankful for and proud of; and she is a friend indeed to those she works for and those who get to work with her.

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

Section 1. That the Council of the City and County of Denver acknowledge and extend its gratitude to Councilwoman Robin Kniech for her dedication to the residents of Denver.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Councilwoman Kniech.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL July 10, 2023



PRESIDENT