

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 21-0454 Honoring the Life of Zona Moore

WHEREAS, Mama Zona Moore, longtime Five Points resident, business owner, and Eastside icon, passed away at the age of 95 on March 21, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Zona was born in Longview, Texas, in 1925 to parents who could retell firsthand accounts of enslavement, including toil in cotton fields, segregated schools, racial slurs, and lynchings; and

WHEREAS, Zona and her husband Willis eventually relocated to Denver with their then 13 children. She worked hard, raising her family and as a nurse's assistant, all while dreaming of opening her own restaurant someday; and

WHEREAS, her first business venture was Zona's Tamale, known to all in the Eastside and beyond as the "Pig Ear Stand," right on the Points at 26th and Washington. Later, she and her son John opened a liquor store at 17th and Race, which remains there today. During her time in business in the Five Points area, Zona was an original member who helped organize the Five Points Business Association; and

WHEREAS, for more than 30 years, seven days a week, from 11 a.m. to sometimes 3 a.m., you could find Zona greeting her customers, many by name, and taking their to-go orders for her pig-ear and hot link sandwiches; and

WHEREAS, much has been written about the social significance and social impact of a Black matriarch on her family, and Zona's family included virtually everyone in Five Points. She would beam anytime someone would stop and speak with her, especially if the subject was the good old times in Five Points; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being a mother to the Five Points community, Zona Moore was the mother of 14 children, 30 grandchildren, 83 great-grandchildren, and 27 great-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, as we say goodbye to the physical presence of Zona Moore, we honor her life and eternal spirit and contributions to our community. She is an Eastside legend who will live forever in our hearts as a virtuous woman who brought decades of joy, love, tenacity, and culture to Five Points. Mrs. Zona Moore is more beloved than ever. We love you and live to honor you and reclaim our community for you, for us, and for future generations.

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 celebrates the life and honors the memory of Mama Zona Moore.

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 her granddaughter, Wilisha Askew-Carter.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL April 19, 2021

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stacie Gilmore", written over a horizontal line.

PRESIDENT