


PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 23-0602 A Proclamation Honoring Skye Stuart on her Service to the City of Denver

WHEREAS, Skye Stuart is a Colorado native, a Boettcher Scholar and graduate of the University of Colorado, and lifelong political veteran having grown up in local government and raised by the mayor of Broomfield; and

WHEREAS, Skye Stuart was newly-elected Mayor Michael B. Hancock's first appointee in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Skye has the lofty honor of those few people in one's community that everyone knows who you are talking about with just one name; and

WHEREAS, Skye is the calm, cool, collected colleague to council. Our North Star, teacher and friend, Skye is a mentor to new council members and the go-to expert and confidant of veterans; and

WHEREAS, Skye Stuart has an encyclopedic understanding of the Charter and the Denver Revised Municipal Code, and a deep historical knowledge of how the City operates that will leave a huge hole in her absence; and

WHEREAS, while Skye's official role as the mayor's legislative director is to communicate administration positions to Council, and Council positions to the administration, she does so much more including helping everyone to understand how the city works, the personalities of city staff and council members, the law, unintended consequences of ideas and actions, and so much more, and

WHEREAS, not only is Skye a resource to city staff and council, but her expertise is regularly called upon by attorneys, lobbyists, other cities, state leaders, other electeds, and many more. Skye is the trusted resource that everyone relies on; and

WHEREAS, it is assumed by many that Skye is an attorney because of her superior understanding of the law, the charter, code, state statute and constitution. Lawyers often turn to Skye for her perspective and advice; and

WHEREAS, no one understands the whole messy organism that is the City & County of Denver in a macro and comprehensive way like Skye does. With siloed functions, she uniquely understands the big picture and how everything interrelates, and is able to help others better understand; and

WHEREAS, Skye not only always found time to promptly respond to queries from central staff and aides often providing them the exact information they were looking for including backup documentation saving them countless time and headaches, she did so with generosity and a smile; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her regular full-time day job managing city legislative affairs, one of Skye's most amazing feats is that, for at least 120 days a year when the Colorado General Assembly is in session, Skye oversees the state legislative process as well, when literally hundreds of bills impacting Denver's operations, both positively and negatively, are introduced every year; and

WHEREAS, while Skye is a mayoral appointee, she consistently provides invaluable support and guidance to the legislative branch of government, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic when she supported the body pivoting to virtual

participation to ensure that the necessary emergency declarations were approved on time and so that the business of the City continued even during the pandemic shutdown.

WHEREAS, Skye is the ultimate good governance advocate always striving toward the best, most fair, pragmatic and equitable solutions; and

WHEREAS, Skye many times under extreme pressure was always available to discuss any issue and provided expert advice and counsel. She is the upmost professional, as well as kind, caring and empathic. Her uncanny ability to recall facts and context almost immediately was displayed on a weekly, if not daily basis.

WHEREAS, Skye is a wealth of information and freely shared her insight and vast knowledge about all things City and County with anyone who asked with professionalism and grace; and

WHEREAS, Skye has been known to attend Monday night Council meetings until late in the night, answer texts or emails into the wee hours and still arrive early for Tuesday morning Mayor/Council with a (almost) smile on her face; and

WHEREAS, In her omnipotence, Skye sees not only the forest and the trees but also the microorganisms and fungi to the clouds and the heavens. Skye alone has the keys to all the doors, holds all secrets, and knows where the bodies are buried, and

WHEREAS, Despite our many flaws, Skye is a patient, kind, thoughtful, fair, mentor and friend to all council members. She's also funny and sarcastic with a wry sense of humor; and

WHEREAS, Skye may be replaced but she is truly irreplaceable. No one will ever fill her shoes; and

WHEREAS, the Denver City Council thanks and honors Skye for her service and wish her the very best in her next career. Skye, you are our North Star.

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 honors, recognizes, and thanks Skye Stuart for her service.

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 Skye Stuart.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL May 15, 2023

COUNCIL PRESIDENT