

Proclamation No. 11-0876

Farewell to a long-time, dedicated, and exceptional friend and employee of Denver, Melvin Thompson, Deputy Manager of Safety, on the occasion of his retirement

WHEREAS, Mel began his illustrious 33-year career with the City & County of Denver in April 1978 as a Parks Seasonal Worker and later becoming a full-time employee in August 1978 at the Wastewater Plant off of 52nd and Rosemary; while attending college to receive his education in Accounting; and

WHEREAS, Mel's career has been woven into many agencies including nine years at Denver General Hospital, two years in the Auditor's Office under two elected Auditors – Bob Crider and Wellington Webb, Budget & Management, three years on the Aspen Project, even becoming Project Director, and in 2001 as the Budget Director until 2007, when appointed as the Deputy Manager of Safety, where he worked diligently for six appointed Managers of Safety, a feat in itself; and

WHEREAS, some of his proudest accomplishments includes creating a new billing model for the new Denver Health Authority, the successful launch of the PeopleSoft/Aspen Project, developing a model for calculating the city's permissible revenue and spending under TABOR that has stood the test of time since the City has never been sued on any TABOR compliance issue in nearly 20 years, and he guided the entire grant and accounting processes for the 2009 Democratic National Convention (DNC) grant; and

WHEREAS, Mel is highly respected by City employees because of his quiet calm during stressful situations, his encouraging demeanor while working to enhance City processes, and his genuine love and dedication to the City and County of Denver government, which was always demonstrated by his actions and words; and

WHEREAS, although work has had great demands on Mel over his career, his family has been his greatest joy. He made time to adopt and raise two children, Shauna and Aaron; and he and his wife Benita have three beautiful grandchildren, Armani (11), Emanuel (2), and Elaina (1); with whom he is eagerly awaiting to spend more time; and

WHEREAS, the City might be at a loss to determine when the fall season actually begins because we have become accustomed to watching for Mel's beard growing in anticipation of the hunting season, as our indicator of the seasonal change.

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

Section 1. That the Denver City Council and its citizens congratulates Mel on the occasion of his retirement and thanks him for his hard work and leadership to make Denver a better place to live and work.

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 to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Melvin Thompson.

 PRESIDENT

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL November 28, 2011