

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 19-0315

A Proclamation Honoring Mike Flanagan For His 52 Year Career In Radio

WHEREAS: As a young child, Mike Flanagan realized that playing records on his record player could better satisfy his broad musical tastes than by his previous attempts at musicianship on the family spinet; and

WHEREAS: Mike was introduced to and smitten by the world of radio as an 8 year-old cub scout on a tour of KWSH in Wewoka, OK and when he turned 16, went back to that station and got his first on-air radio job; and

WHEREAS: As a full-time college student in Norman OK, Mike was the nightly host of “Sooner Sanctum” at KNOR as well as writing a regular column for the Oklahoma Daily, and after graduating, served as program director and host for KOFM, Oklahoma City’s original “beautiful music” station which transformed to an underground rock format when Mike and his colleagues arrived; and

WHEREAS: Mike moved to Colorado in 1974 and held various positions at a handful of Denver stations, including KFML-AM, KLIR-FM and KDKO, and did his first stint at CPR as a classical music host from 1991-1998; and was the afternoon drive progressive talk show host at KWAB in Boulder from 1999-2001; and

WHEREAS: From 2005-2011, Mike taught radio production and was general manager of the University of Colorado’s nationally-recognized student radio station, Radio 1190; and

WHEREAS: Mike spent the last several years of his half-century plus career back at CPR, most notably, since 2011, creating and programming the music service OpenAir and providing the vision behind new, local, and independent music; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Flanagan’s contributions to the new music scene could be heard daily via his show which provided a unique soundtrack for the afternoon commute, as well as his weekend program, Retrofit, which guided listeners through some of history’s most memorable songs from the roots of blues through present day; and

WHEREAS: Outside of radio, Mr. Flanagan has had an accomplished career as a writer and published author, spending nine years writing the back page of the Denver Post’s Empire Magazine, “Out West,” and as an early contributor to Westword, while somehow finding the time to author five successful books including “The Complete Idiot’s Guide to the Old West”, “The Old West Day by Day”, and “It’s About Time” as well as the nationally syndicated column “Pop Quiz”; and

WHEREAS: Mike Flanagan retired from CPR on Halloween, 2018, capping a legendary career in radio spanning over 52 years;

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 congratulates Mike Flanagan on his outstanding career and wishes him well in his well-deserved retirement; and

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 Mike Flanagan.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL April 1, 2019

PRESIDENT