



Proclamation No. 23-0950

A Proclamation Recognizing Councilwoman Kendra Black's Service to the City of Denver

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Kendra Black tirelessly served District 4 from 2015-2023, greatly expanding outreach and communication to her diverse constituents through initiatives such as "The Scoop" e-newsletter, a yearly printed newsletter, and impactful social media campaigns; and

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Black collaborated with the community and city agencies to bring new public art to District 4, including an art bus shelter designed by students at Thomas Jefferson High School, seven Urban Arts Fund murals, "Fifty State Animals" wraps on traffic light boxes, three cottonwood tree carvings, and three Denver 1% Public Art projects; and

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Black responded to community requests identified in an extensive visioning process and created the South by Southeast community festival, featuring local bands, food trucks, and non-profits that has drawn more than 8,000 residents annually for the past seven years; and

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Black showed dedication and hard work on the Near Southeast Area Plan and rezonings to bring positive development outcomes for the University Hills North neighborhood, which she had advocated for a plan for over a decade; and

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Black has championed sustainability efforts for Denver to tackle the urgent climate crisis, leading efforts as a Certifiably Green Business, serving on the Regional Air Quality Council, promoting recycling and composting, as well as legislation reducing single-use plastics, advancing alternative transportation, and initiating a successful No Drive Friday campaign; and

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Black has made significant contributions to Denver's parks, including the creation of the Denver Park Trust, advocacy for a new park in the University Hills North neighborhood, funding of the restoration of the Babi Yar Park Memorial, securement of funding for High Line Canal underpasses, advocacy alongside the community for a future skatepark in the Kennedy recreation area, and work on a historic designation for the Wellshire Golf Course; and

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Black's advocacy efforts have led to notable safety and mobility improvements in District 4, such as medians on Hampden Avenue, pedestrian crossings along the High Line Canal, safety audits, and the Southeast Denver Mobility Hub Study, which included multiple light rail stations; and

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Black has played an instrumental role in good governance efforts, making the council more efficient and accountable, driving ballot measure reform, updating marijuana laws, supporting local restaurants, improving parking enforcement, promoting adaptive reuse, and advancing an inclusive and equitable city; and

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Black fostered a culture of respect and teamwork with her staff, central staff, and city agencies resulting in a work environment that was energized, creative, and productive for the betterment of her constituents and the residents of Denver.

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 Kendra Black 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 Black.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL July 10, 2023

PRESIDENT