

Proclamation No. 21-0687 Justice For Janitors Week

WHEREAS, thousands of Denver Metro Area janitors work by cleaning 50-story office buildings, business parks, high-tech and medical campuses, and public buildings like our own Denver International Airport, and the Wellington E. Webb Municipal Building; and

WHEREAS, in 1986 the now internationally organized Justice for Janitors Campaign began here in Downtown Denver, Colorado, as part of the Service Employees International Union Local 105; and

WHEREAS, for 35 years, the Justice for Janitors movement has given both a voice to the workers who clean buildings in cities and suburbs across Metro Denver and across the country, and a seat at the table in the fight for fair wages, affordable family healthcare, full-time work, safer working conditions, and creating efficient workplace standards that have helped transform the industry; and

WHEREAS, Denver janitors, who are majority Latina immigrant women, are the often invisible front-line workers in the fight against COVID-19 transmission, and worked to clean and sanitize our workspaces and living spaces many times without the staffing, resources, and training needed to do the work during the pandemic, putting themselves and their families at risk of infection and even death to protect our communities so that our city, state, and country could endure; and

WHEREAS, as we continue to reopen, we recognize how much our local economy, downtown office buildings, and communities depend on the protective work of our janitors, giving us all the confidence to safely come back to our workplaces in person and continue to make our city thrive.

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

Section 1. That the City & County of Denver, Colorado joins janitorial workers across the metro area in recognizing June 14 to June 21, 2021 as Justice for Janitors Week.

Section 2. That the Council of the City and County of Denver hereby thanks the janitors for their work in keeping our own public buildings clean and safe for the public, visitors, city employees, and all Denver Metro families during the pandemic and beyond.

Section 3. That the Clerk and Recorder of the City and County of Denver attest and affix the Seal of the City and County of Denver and that a copy of this proclamation be transmitted to the Service Employees International Union Local 105.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL June 14, 2021