



RESOLUTION

CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS - A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

By: Reich, Fletcher, Cunningham, Ellison, Osman, Goodman, Jenkins, Cano, Bender, Schroeder, Johnson and Palmisano

HONORING COUNCIL MEMBER CAM GORDON FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

- Whereas: Cam Gordon was first elected to the City Council in 2005, and has served as the sole Green Party Minneapolis Council Member for sixteen years, working to uphold and implement the Ten Key Values of Grassroots Democracy, Social and Economic Justice, Ecological Wisdom, Nonviolence, Decentralization, Community-Based Economics, Feminism and Gender Equity, Respect for Diversity, Personal and Global Responsibility, and Future Focus; and
- Whereas: Cam's work on Grassroots Democracy included making Minneapolis the first city in Minnesota to successfully pass and implement Ranked Choice Voting, vocally supporting the expansion of early voting centers and other approaches to make it easier for people to vote, and protecting people's First Amendment right to protest; and
- Whereas: Cam has championed Social and Economic Justice by helping to lead policies to help workers like the local minimum wage and safe and sick time requirements, protections for renters like rent stabilization, pre-eviction notification, right to counsel, re-legalizing single room occupancy, intentional community cluster developments, and leading the effort to repeal racist laws like "lurking," and more; and
- Whereas: Cam has been the key leader on the Council for Ecological Wisdom, leading environmental policies including declaring a climate emergency, adopting a Social Cost of Carbon, dedicating franchise fee dollars to clean energy, supporting renewable energy and community solar, supporting district energy in the Towerside Innovation District, leading on energy disclosure, fighting to democratize our energy utilities, reducing waste through recycling and composting, and championing multimodal transportation through advocacy for protected bikeways, Complete Streets, and other policies that have helped people feel safe and comfortable walking, biking and taking transit, and much more; and
- Whereas: Cam has been a leading voice for Nonviolence, including leading the effort to declare youth violence a public health crisis, working to reduce violence committed by Minneapolis police, and putting the City on record opposing war; and
- Whereas: Cam has consistently advocated for Decentralization, including support for neighborhood groups, pushing for participatory budgeting, and leading the effort to create several boards and commissions, including the Housing Advisory Committee, the Bicycle Advisory Committee, the Energy Vision Advisory Committee, the Food Council, and the Green Zones Task Forces; and
- Whereas: Cam has worked to reorient development policy towards Community-Based Economics, including his leadership of Homegrown Minneapolis, which allowed new market gardens, urban farms, farmers markets, mobile grocery stores and more, by fighting corporate welfare like subsidies for stadiums, by leading efforts to protect young people from the tobacco industry, and by helping countless small businesses in Ward 2 survive and thrive; and
- Whereas: As a cisgender man, Cam has consistently supported Feminism and Gender equity, including working to make Minneapolis a better employer for women employees, supporting transgender rights, and working to protect predominantly female presenting adult entertainers from exploitation; and
- Whereas: Cam has worked to fight racism and enshrine Respect for Diversity as a key policy goal in Minneapolis, including leading the effort to diversify City boards and commissions, passing the first policy resolution calling out institutional racism in the City government and committing to end it, supporting efforts to diversify neighborhood groups, supporting the creation of the Office of Race and Equity and more; and
- Whereas: Cam has consistently taken Personal and Global Responsibility, leading by example with humility, de-escalating and resolving conflict, and showing how effective Green leadership can be; and
- Whereas: Cam has brought Future Focus to his work on the Council, helping to lead the Youth Coordinating Board and Youth Violence Prevention Blueprint for Action, founding the Minneapolis Youth Cabinet, advocating for Children's Savings Accounts and funds for after-school programs, and consistently reminding himself and others that we are not just responsible for meeting today's needs, but for leaving our children a more peaceful, equitable, democratic, and sustainable city; and
- Whereas: Senior Policy Aide Robin Garwood has served alongside Cam throughout his time on the Council, and his effectiveness, capability, passion, and commitment have been critical to the accomplishments of the Ward 2 office; and
- Whereas: Ward 2 Associate Nancy Olsen provided invaluable service to the people of Ward 2 and Minneapolis, not only during all of Cam's 16 years on the Council, but throughout the terms of his predecessors Paul Zerby and Joan Campbell, Council Member and Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton, and Council Member Patrick Daugherty, as well as serving with the Inspections Department; and

- Whereas: Cam’s family gave tremendous support and made significant sacrifices over the years to make it possible for him to be of service to the City; and
- Whereas: Cam is widely known as one of the kindest, gentlest, most humane elected officials in Minneapolis history, who has served as a mentor and supporter to many colleagues and community leaders; and
- Whereas: Cam has been famous, or perhaps infamous, for putting out by far the longest monthly newsletter of any Minneapolis policymaker, perhaps ever, and will likely think of things that should have been included even in a resolution of this length;

—NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED—

That the City Council does hereby present this Honorary Resolution in recognition of its sincere gratitude and appreciation for the many contributions made by Council Member Cam Gordon to Ward 2 and the City of Minneapolis, together with their best wishes in his future endeavors.

Passed this the Tenth Day of December, 2021

Lisa Bender, President of the Council

Approved:

Jacob Frey, Mayor

Attest:

Casey Joe Carl, City Clerk