

BY ALDS STAMPER, PRATT, WESTMORELAND, SPIKER, CHAMBERS, BAUMAN, COGGS, ZAMARRIPA, TAYLOR, MOORE, PEREZ

*Resolution recognizing William “Bill” Schmitt on his achievements and contributions to the community.*

**WHEREAS**

## **WILLIAM “BILL” SCHMITT**

*has honorably served as Executive Director of Rooted & Rising-Washington Park for six years, leading with unwavering commitment, strategic vision, and a steadfast dedication to equity, community care, and collaborative leadership; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Under the leadership of Bill Schmitt, Rooted & Rising has achieved significant organizational growth, including the new construction of Early Childhood Education Homes and the creation of a revitalized, nature-based playscape at The Growing Tree Children’s Center, as well as mission-driven internal property management practices that strengthened tenant relationships through personalized care, compassion and respect; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *Bill Schmitt expanded Rooted & Rising’s reach and deepened its impact through development of a fully integrated Neighborhood Engagement Team, while also transforming the agency’s Food Center into a chose-based model that doubled annual customer service level and led a comprehensive rebranding effort that aligned Rooted & Rising’s identity with its mission and future direction, while still honoring its legacy established by the United Methodist Church; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *Bill Schmitt achieved record-breaking fundraising achievements through the cultivation of new strategic partnerships, serving multi-year grants, and ensuring consistent growth in unrestricted funding to strengthen Rooted & Rising’s long-term sustainability and under his guidance, Rooted & Rising successfully navigated times of uncertainty and transformation with agility, integrity, and inclusivity-investing in staff development and uplifting both residents and the Washington Park community; now, therefore, be it*

**RESOLVED,** *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith congratulates Bill Schmitt for his achievements and contributions to the community, and expresses its appreciation for his exemplary leadership, transformative vision, and enduring impact; and, be it*

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Bill Schmitt as a symbol of gratitude for his years of remarkable service and leadership.*

**Introduced by Common Council Members Russell W. Stamper, II Andrea M. Pratt, Scott Spiker, Mark Chambers, Jr., Robert Bauman, Lamont Westmoreland, Milele A. Coggs,**

*JoCasta Zamarripa, Sharlen P. Moore, and José G. Pérez and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on July 15, 2025.*