

BY ALDS PRATT, COGGS, BAUMAN, PEREZ, CHAMBERS, WESTMORLAND, ZAMARRIPA, MOORE, SPIKER, BROWER, STAMPER

*Resolution celebrating the unveiling of a special mural honoring Milwaukee soccer legend Jimmy Banks.*

**WHEREAS,**

## **JIMMY BANKS MURAL**

*was unveiled during a special ceremony on June 9, 2025 at Jimmy Banks Memorial Stadium, 4300 W. Fairmount Ave.; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Jimmy Banks was born on September 2, 1964 in Milwaukee and began playing soccer through a Salvation Army program at age six which sparked a 30-year soccer career as a player, coach and mentor; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Jimmy Banks graduated from Custer High School, went on to play collegiate soccer at UW-Milwaukee (where he started his U.S. Men's National Team career during his senior year and went on to win 36 caps), and played a pivotal role in the USA's 1990 FIFA World Cup qualifying campaign, playing in four matches to help the MNT reach its first World Cup in 40 years, and making history as the first Wisconsinite and one of the first two African American players to represent the U.S. Men's National Team in a World Cup; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Commissioned by Milwaukee Public Schools and the Milwaukee City Conference to honor Jimmy Banks, the mural is designed to capture Jimmy's work on and off the field, and artist Tia Richardson's work covers a 12-by-50-foot area outside the stadium, bringing to life the soccer icon's embodiment of teamwork, perseverance, and community service; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Funding for the mural was made possible by the Friends of Jimmy Banks (a group formed in 2019 after Banks' passing, and since then, the group has raised over \$40,000 to support the project, including a \$25,500 grant from Bader Philanthropies, a \$20,000 grant from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, and \$7,600 in individual donations, and among the generous individual supporters were Tim Alioto, Joel Haubrich, Chris Knowlton, the Banks family, and John Scott McCrary, who played a pivotal role in bringing the mural to life; now, therefore, be it*

**RESOLVED,** *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith expresses its pride in the new mural honoring the life and work of Jimmy Banks at Jimmy Banks Memorial Stadium, thanks the many organizations and individuals who helped make the mural possible, and recognizes Jimmy's lasting positive impact in the community and in the game he loved; and, be it*

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the Jimmy Banks Academy.*

**Introduced by Common Council members Andrea M. Pratt, Milele A. Coggs, José G. Pérez, Robert Bauman, Mark Chambers, Jr., Lamont Westmoreland, JoCasta Zamarripa, Sharlen P. Moore, Scott Spiker, Alex Brower and Russell W. Stamper, II and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on June 24, 2025.**