

BY ALDS. BAUMAN, COGGS, PRATT, STAMPER, SPIKER, CHAMBERS, BROSTOFF, TAYLOR, MOORE, PEREZ

Resolution expressing condolences to the family and friends of Cecilia Gilbert.

WHEREAS,

CECILIA GILBERT

passed from this life at age 75 on August 19, 2024, and a celebration of her life was held at Turner Hall Ballroom on August 29, 2024; and

WHEREAS, *Cecilia Gilbert studied secondary education at UW-Whitewater and went on to receive a bachelor's degree in community education from UW-Milwaukee, and soon after began her career in 1976 with the City of Milwaukee as an analyst at the Milwaukee Commission on Community Relations, where her duties included conducting diversity training workshops, investigating discrimination complaints, and serving as the commission's spokeswoman on TV and radio programs; and*

WHEREAS, *After working briefly outside city government as a teacher, and later as a legislative assistant in the Common Council – City Clerk's Office, Cecilia went to the Department of City Development, where she worked as the DCD Liaison Officer, and in 2001 was hired by the Department of Public Works to serve as its Permits and Communications Manager; and*

WHEREAS, *From 2001 to 2017, Cecilia fully embraced the DPW spokeswoman role, coordinating public information and communications for the department's role in key events, including Bastille Days, City of Milwaukee Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, and the St. Patrick's Day Parade, and also worked to help accommodate businesses during street construction projects, and answered questions from journalists on topics that included clearing streets after big snowfalls, complaints about parking restrictions, and City Hall's facade repairs; and*

WHEREAS, *Cecilia Gilbert served on the city's Administrative Review Board of Appeals and on several civic boards, including Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Lakefront Festival of the Arts, Pabst Mansion and VISIT Milwaukee, where she worked on VISIT's diversity and inclusion efforts – helping draw conventions for such groups as National Council of La Raza, U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the NAACP; and*

WHEREAS, *Cecilia, known affectionately as "The Queen," completed her amazing 34-year career in city service in DPW as a business support liaison upon retirement in October 2017; and*

WHEREAS, *Cecilia leaves to cherish her memory her beloved son, Richard, her loving grandchildren, Justin and Bryson, and brothers Ceotrid (Rick) and Christopher; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith offers its sincere condolences to the family and friends of Cecilia Gilbert, who will be remembered fondly for her dedicated and distinguished career in public service, and for her selfless commitment to serving the community she loved; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of the resolution be presented to the family of Cecilia Gilbert.*

Introduced by Common Council members Robert J. Bauman, Andrea M. Pratt, Mark Chambers, Jr., Jonathan Brostoff, Lamont Westmoreland, Milele A. Coggs, JoCasta Zamarripa, Larresa Taylor, Sharlen P. Moore, Scott Spiker, José G. Pérez and Russell W. Stamper, II and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on September 3, 2024.