

42

From The Mayor

October 10, 1989

Honorable City Council:

On December 31, 1989, the Honorable Erma Henderson will retire after seventeen years as a member of Detroit's City Council. As the third woman elected to Council, Mrs. Henderson has the distinction of being the first African-American woman to serve in this capacity and the first woman to be elected to the presidency; a position she has held for the last twelve years.

In addition to her historically significant position on the City Council, Mrs. Henderson has participated in a myriad of civic, political and cultural organizations. Ms. Henderson has been at the forefront of numerous struggles for social change and is the founder of the Women's Conference of Concerns.

In tribute to the many contributions Mrs. Henderson has made to this city, I propose that Memorial Park, at East Jefferson and Burns Drive, be renamed, by your Honorable Body, The Erma Henderson Park. This park, located on the Detroit River, is a place Mrs. Henderson frequently visits for walks and thus is an especially appropriate place to formally recognize her efforts on behalf of Detroit.

Your concurrence, by resolution, will make official the park's renaming. A renaming ceremony can be scheduled on an appropriate date in the future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
COLEMAN A. YOUNG
Mayor

**RESOLUTION
DESIGNATING THE
ERMA HENDERSON PARK**

By COUNCIL MEMBER EBERHARD,
JOINED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS
CLEVELAND, COLLINS, HOOD, KEL-
LEY, MAHAFFEY, PEOPLES AND
RAVITZ.

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit has

greatly benefited from the leadership, the compassion, the vision, and the good humor that Erma Henderson has provided through her many years of public service, and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Erma Henderson has served her City by taking action and speaking out to support Detroit citizens, particularly those who may have been ignored, forgotten or overlooked by the bureaucracy, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Henderson has further contributed from her apparent limitless source of energy, as a member and leader in numerous local, state and national organizations, bringing additional recognition to this City which she loves, and

WHEREAS, In recognition of the many contributions Erma Henderson has made to the City of Detroit and in tribute to the achievements and life of an outstanding Detroit citizen, the Mayor has proposed that Memorial Park at East Jefferson and Burns Drive, be renamed The Erma Henderson Park; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, Pursuant to the communication of October 10, 1989 from Mayor Coleman Young, the Detroit City Council concurs with the proposal that Memorial Park at East Jefferson and Burns Drive, be renamed The Erma Henderson Park, and Be It Further

RESOLVED, This City Council joins Detroit Citizens in commending and thanking Erma Henderson for her dedication, her inspiration and the endless love and energy she contributes on our behalf.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas — Council Members Cleveland, Collins, Eberhard, Hood, Kelley, Mahaffey, Peoples, Ravitz and President Henderson — 9.

*RECONSIDERATION (No. 6), per Motions before Adjournment.

Nays — None.

TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR
COLEMAN A. YOUNG
TO MY HONORABLE COUNCIL
COLLEAGUES

Thank you! Thank you is not enough to express the great joy you have given me upon the close of my public service career as an elected official on the Detroit City Council. I am deeply honored and so deeply grateful for your overwhelming support and confidence.

It is my great wish that each of you will enjoy your many days of service that lie before you.

God bless you.

Sincerely,
ERMA HENDERSON
City Council President

Oct. 18, 1989
J.C.C. P63. 2424-25

