

CITY OF OBERLIN, OHIO

RESOLUTION No. R18-12 CMS

A RESOLUTION DEDICATING THE PAVILION AT 273 SOUTH MAIN STREET (OBERLIN UNDERGROUND RAILROAD CENTER SITE) IN HONOR OF GEORGE ABRAM AND AUTHORIZING CITY STAFF TO DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT AN APPROPRIATE MEMORIAL AT THE SITE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, George Abram was born on December 3, 1928 in Hilltop, West Virginia, graduated from Stratton High School in Beckley, West Virginia, served in the United States Army until 1949, and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Bluefield State College in 1953; and

WHEREAS, In 1962, Abram and his wife Cleo moved to Oberlin, Ohio, which began his dedicated service to the Oberlin community; and

WHEREAS, Abram retired from the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority as the Director of the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and was also a licensed realtor locally with Howard Hanna Realty; and

WHEREAS, Abram dedicated his time and efforts to the Oberlin community serving as the public address announcer for both Oberlin High School and Oberlin College sporting events, coaching soccer and baseball, and serving as a consultant to Oberlin College in developing their Affirmative Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, Abram's involvement in community organizations were notable, including serving as the Chair of the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Advisory Committee, serving on the Oberlin Community Improvement Corporation, and as the Founder/Chair and board member of the Oberlin Chapter of the Boys and Girls Club; and

WHEREAS, Abram most recently served as the Chair of the Oberlin Underground Railroad Center Implementation Team from its inception in 2009 until his resignation in 2018 shortly before his death. His significant contributions to the Oberlin Underground Railroad Center project have been instrumental in advancing the project through its second phase and upon his reluctant resignation, he declared his fervent hope that the project be completed in its entirety.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Oberlin, County of Lorain, State of Ohio, five-sevenths (5/7ths) of all members elected thereto concurring:

SECTION 1. That the pavilion located at 273 South Main Street, Oberlin, Ohio (Oberlin Underground Railroad Center site) be dedicated to George Abram in honor of his dedicated service to the Oberlin community and to the Oberlin Underground Railroad Center project.

SECTION 2. That City staff is directed to contract for the design and construction of an appropriate memorial to George Abram at the pavilion site.

SECTION 3: It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning or relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this

Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 4. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the citizens of the City of Oberlin, or to provide for the usual daily operation of a municipal department, to wit: "to assure the establishment of a memorial before the completion of the pavilion construction project" and shall take effect immediately up passage.

PASSED: 1st Reading: October 1, 2018 (E)

2nd Reading: _____

3rd Reading: _____

ATTEST:



BELINDA B. ANDERSON, MMC
CLERK OF COUNCIL



BRYAN BURGESS
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

POSTED: 10/02/2018

EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/01/2018