RESOLUTION NO. - 2025

EESW/EEF

RECOGNIZING President Pro-Tempore ("President Pro Tem") Victoria Parks and **EXPRESSING** the appreciation of the Mayor and the Council of the City of Cincinnati for President Pro Tem Parks' community support, leadership, and honorable service to the City of Cincinnati and our nation.

WHEREAS, President Pro Tempore ("President Pro Tem") Parks is a native Cincinnatian who proudly grew up in the College Hill neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, upon graduating from Aiken High School, President Pro Tem Parks served our nation in the Air Force from 1976 to 1980; and

WHEREAS, as a female veteran, President Pro Tem Parks was awarded the Air Force Longevity Service Award and the Air Force Good Conduct Medal; and

WHEREAS, continuing in her dedication to public service, President Pro Tem Parks worked for Congressman Steve Driehaus, helping constituents at the federal level; and

WHEREAS, President Pro Tem Parks served as Chief of Staff for Hamilton County Commissioner Todd Portune and was later appointed to his seat upon his retirement; and

WHEREAS, President Pro Tem Parks built connections with her fellow commissioners and the community to create "great solutions" for issues facing Hamilton County, including addressing racism as a public health crisis; establishing #513 Survive, which provided a voice for youth about how they felt during COVID-19; and establishing Juneteenth as a paid holiday in Hamilton County; and

WHEREAS, President Pro Tem Parks also worked in the non-profit sector as a public servant, sharing her exemplary skills in fundraising, community outreach, and grant writing as the Major Gift Officer at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, and the Development Director at the Women's Crisis Center, caring for thirteen counties in Northern Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, President Pro Tem Parks joined Cincinnati City Council on January 4, 2022, bringing collaboration and establishing innovative programs such as the Girls in Government program, among others; and

WHEREAS, Victoria Parks served as the President Pro Tem of Cincinnati City Council, and served on numerous boards and commissions, dedicating her life to public service to our city and our nation; and

WHEREAS, President Pro Tem Parks established Juneteenth as an official holiday in Cincinnati, established an equitable development program, created the Building Futures workforce development pre-apprenticeship program, and spearheaded many other important initiatives; now, therefore.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council hereby recognize President Pro Tempore ("President Pro Tem") Victoria Parks and express their appreciation for her community support, leadership, and honorable service to the City of Cincinnati and to our nation.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that a copy be provided to President Pro Tem Parks through the office of Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney.

Passed:		, 2025		
			Aftab Pureval, Mayor	
Attest:	Clerk			

Submitted by Mayor Aftab Pureval, Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney, and Councilmembers Anna Albi, Jeff Cramerding, Mark Jeffreys, Scotty Johnson, Evan Nolan, Meeka D. Owens, and Seth Walsh