

RESOLUTION NO. 8 - 2021

**RECOGNIZING** and expressing the appreciation of the Mayor and the Council of the City of Cincinnati to Pastor Damon Lynch III during Black History Month 2021 for his decades of continuous leadership and work in police reform and economic development in the City of Cincinnati:

WHEREAS, Pastor Damon Lynch, III is a lifetime resident of the City of Cincinnati, Ohio, and has been the proud Pastor of New Prospect Baptist Church in Roselawn for 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Lynch was one of the leaders in creating the Collaborative Agreement in 2002 that created reform in the Cincinnati Police Department and served as a model to police departments across the country, and

WHEREAS, Pastor Lynch is the President of the Community Economic Advancement Initiative (CEAI), whose mission is to provide strategic plans for safety, health, and education in the Black community; and

WHEREAS, CEAI has several ongoing projects including a Solar Energy Project, the purchase of four acres of land in Roselawn, a grocery store in Bond Hill, and a housing development strategy; and

WHEREAS, CEAI worked with community partners such as Bon Secours Mercy Health to open a COVID-19 testing site in Bond Hill and with the Urban League of Greater Southwest Ohio to provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to Cincinnati residents; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Lynch continues to be a champion for other community organizations, including the Collaborative Agreement Refresh, AMOS Project, Opiate Coalition of Hamilton County, Strive Partnership, CEG, Common Good, and many more; and

WHEREAS, as a founding faculty member of the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute at DePaul University, Pastor Lynch has conducted workshops and seminars throughout the United States for many organizations; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Lynch recently wrote the book, *Becoming Joshua*, a faith-based guide to economic freedom and progress for the Black community; now, therefore,

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

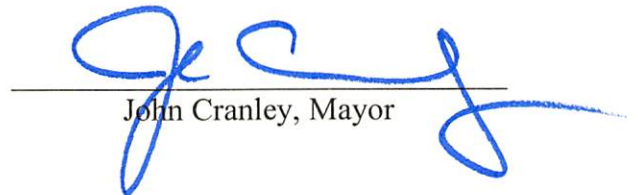
Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council hereby recognize Pastor Damon Lynch III for his leadership in police reform and economic development in the City of Cincinnati, and especially in the Cincinnati's Black community:

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council.

Passed: February 18, 2021

Attest:

  
Clerk

  
John Cranley, Mayor

Submitted by Councilmember Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney