

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 41
HONORING CLEO WOODS**

WHEREAS, we have been apprised that after more than twenty-five years of dedicated service to the City of St. Louis in the Office of the Assessor, Cleo Woods, at the age of 91, is retiring; and

WHEREAS, Cleo Woods was born on August 15th, 1929, in St. Louis, Missouri to Helen Lester and Creel Woods; Cleo was a single mother working, sometimes two jobs to care for her children Eric, Glenn, Althea, Greg, Robert, Diane, Edward, Marlene, and Marvin; and

WHEREAS, over the years Cleo Woods held several jobs; most notably she worked at Koch Hospital for twenty years and then at Barnes Hospital for ten years; in August of 1996, Cleo began her career at City Hall in the Assessor's Office and even at 91 years old her work ethic is impeccable; her co-workers adore her and she makes sure they have coffee ready every morning; she is known for bringing meals to the office on special occasions, holidays, or just because; Cleo also enjoys sending cards to her friends and co-workers always signing it: LOVE, LOVE, LOVE, Cleo; and

WHEREAS, Cleo married Delbert Mitchell on August 18th, 1979 and they were joined in union until his death in 2004; Cleo loved to cook for her family, Thanksgivings at Cleo's house were a real treat, but she was best-known for her famous salad dressing potato salad-folks placed orders and came from miles around for it; and

WHEREAS, for a woman who never learned to drive, Cleo was never at home; she loved to travel and if the opportunity to take a trip presented itself, there is no doubt Cleo Woods would be packed and waiting on her front porch; and

WHEREAS, for over thirty years, Cleo was an active member of the Choral Club at Prince of Peace Missionary Baptist Church; she would later join Rhema Church under the leadership of Norman E. Owens, Jr. where (after 25 years), she is still a member and serves on the Mother's Ministry; and

WHEREAS, Cleo is preceded in death by her best friend of more than 60 years, Evie "Granny" Wilson; they both exemplify God's characteristics of generosity, love, and faith; and

WHEREAS, if you ever have a chance to meet at 6022 Westminster, know that Cleo will be serving good food, talking loudly, and sharing stories about growing up and old times--- and spreading laughter, lots and lots of laughter.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to say farewell and good luck to Cleo Woods after twenty-five years of commitment and dedication to the citizens of St. Louis, and we wish her peace and happiness in her retirement. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to Cleo Woods at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 17th day of June, 2021 by:
Honorable Heather Navarro, Alderman 28th Ward
Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis City Board of Aldermen

Adopted this 17th day of June, 2021 as attested by

Terry Kennedy
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen