

RESOLUTION 105

WHEREAS, The Neighborhood Leadership Fellows Program (NFL) is a nine month advanced leadership-training program for Community and Potential Community Leaders; and

WHEREAS, THE NFL is an extension of **Creating Whole Communities** (a collaboration of the University of Missouri St. Louis and MU Extension) and the **St. Louis Promise Zone-St. Louis Economic Development Partnership**; and

WHEREAS, The mission of Neighborhood Leadership Fellows (NLF) is to increase and amplify the voices of North St. Louis City and County residents at the civic decision-making tables in order to produce more equitable regional policies for neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, With more than 100 applications, twenty-three potential leaders from North St. Louis City and North St. Louis County were accepted into this nine-month fellowship; and

WHEREAS, Fellows were selected from neighborhoods within the St. Louis Promise Zone due to the well-documented need for more targeted investment; and

WHEREAS, Fellows will receive a stipend to help offset potential financial barriers and to use towards additional advanced training as well as an UMSL Chancellor's Certificate in Civic Leadership upon graduation; and

WHEREAS, The initial NFL group included eleven from St. Louis City and twelve from St. Louis County; and

WHEREAS, The NFL provided hands-on training emphasizing Educational Workshops, Tactical Training, Positional Power Training, Collaborative Learning, and Mentoring and Networking

WHEREAS, As a result of the training, the Fellows have begun serving on regional and local boards and commissions; running for elected office (with one Fellow winning his race for State Representative); and working in teams to develop solutions to the issues facing the North St. Louis region; and

WHEREAS, The initial program began in January 2018 continuing for nine months until the NLF Graduation on Saturday, September 15, 2018, which will be held at Central Print, located in the Old North St. Louis neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Aldermen for the City of St. Louis wishes to acknowledge the 1st graduating class of the Neighborhood Leaders Fellows Program, and the potential significance and impact this group of trained Community and Potential Community Leaders can have on shaping the future of not only North St. Louis City and County but on the entire St. Louis Metropolitan Area.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Members of this Honorable Board of Aldermen join the sponsor of this resolution in expressing congratulations to **Octavia Pittman** on her graduation from the first graduating class of the Neighborhood Leaders Fellows Program and instruct the Clerk of this Honorable Board of Aldermen to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution to present to **Octavia Pittman** at the appropriate time and place.

Introduced on this 14th Day of September 2018 by:
The Honorable Sharon Tyus, Alderwoman 1st Ward
The Honorable Samuel Moore, Alderman 4th Ward
The Honorable Dan Guenther, Alderman 9th Ward