

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 31  
HONORING WILLIAM A. PEARSON**

**WHEREAS**, This Honorable Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis has been apprised of many contributions of Mr. William Pearson to the City of St. Louis; and

**WHEREAS**, William A. Pearson grew-up in the City of St. Louis at 2339 Delmar Boulevard, in the heart of the Lucas Heights Community, and graduated first in his class from Banneker School, and second in his class from Vashon High School; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Pearson has given many years of untiring service and support to the Lucas Heights Community, formerly known as Mill Creek, and the Washington Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Pearson has never wavered in his commitment to ongoing improvement of the quality of the environment in the Lucas Heights Community to ensure that remains a place for families to live, worship, and raise and educate their children, and he has been central to the community's revitalization; and

**WHEREAS**, with the assistance of his church, Washington Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church, and others Mr. Pearson brought to fruition his vision to develop affordable housing in the Lucas Heights Community with the construction of 565 affordable housing units in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, for forty-six years Mr. Pearson was an educator in the St. Louis Public Schools where he set standards for excellence and leadership in education in and out of the classroom and in school administration, and ultimately retired from the St. Louis Public Schools in 1997 as the Associate Superintendent for Curriculum Development; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1960 Mr. Pearson was selected from a large pool of outstanding American educators by the United States Department of Education to be the U.S. Advisor of Education to the nation of Liberia in the region of West Africa, and during his two years as the U.S. Advisor of Education to Liberia he also served as chargé d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Liberia when the Ambassador travelled abroad; and

**WHEREAS**, soon after his return from Liberia Mr. Pearson was made a member of a select team of educators charged with merging and integrating the racially segregated Harris Teachers College and Stowe Teachers College, and due to his work on this effort he was named Dean of Instruction of the newly formed Harris – Stowe State University; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout his travels around the world, and regardless of his then current leadership position Mr. Pearson never lost sight of or allowed his dedication to the Lucas Heights Community to diminish; and

**WHEREAS**, it is for the forgoing reasons that an honorary street name is a fitting and greatly deserved way to honor William A. Pearson for his numerous and significant contributions to the City of St. Louis; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Ordinance 68937, an ordinance authorizing the honorary street name William A. Pearson Street, which shall begin at the intersection of North Cardinal Avenue and Franklin Avenue and run south on North Cardinal Avenue to the intersection of North Cardinal Avenue and Samuel Shepard Drive.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to recognize and celebrate the life of Mr. William Pearson and acknowledge his many accomplishments and contributions to the City of St. Louis. 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 memorial copy to the end that it may be presented to those deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

**Introduced this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020 by:  
The Honorable Marlene Davis, Alderwoman Ward 19**

**Adopted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020 as attested by**

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**Terry Kennedy  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen**

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**Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen**