



# *The City of Minneapolis*

## A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

By Frey, Reich, Gordon, B. Johnson, Yang, Warsame,  
Goodman, Cano, Glidden, Bender, Quincy, A. Johnson, Palmisano

Honoring

## Mayor Don Fraser

- WHEREAS: Donald MacKay Fraser was born in 1924 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, the son of University of Minnesota law school dean Everett Fraser. He attended the University of Minnesota, where he earned a BA degree in 1944. He served briefly in the Pacific theater during the latter part of World War II, and then returned to the University of Minnesota, completing his L.L.B. degree in 1948; and
- WHEREAS: Fraser became active in the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party beginning in the late 1940s, working on several political campaigns including Hubert H. Humphrey's race for the U.S. Senate in 1948. Through this work he met Arvonne Skelton, a fellow student also active in the DFL party. They were married in 1950, and had six children; and
- WHEREAS: Fraser was a Minnesota State Senator from 1954 to 1962, representing Northeast Minneapolis and the area around the University of Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: In 1962 Fraser was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, representing Minnesota's Fifth District in the 88th-96th Congresses (1963-1979); and
- WHEREAS: In 1979 Fraser ran for mayor of Minneapolis, defeating Charles Stenvig by a wide margin. He served four terms, retiring in January of 1994. Mayor Fraser is the longest-serving mayor in Minneapolis history; and
- WHEREAS: As mayor, Fraser sought to reform the procedures of city government and oversaw a period of extensive downtown redevelopment balanced by historic preservation, including saving the Armory, the Stone Arch Bridge, and the Marquette Block; and
- WHEREAS: Mayor Fraser has continued to pursue the improvement of life conditions and learning conditions for infants, children, youth and their families in our community. This is exemplified by his initiation of the Youth Coordinating Board, and most recently with his work on the Committee of the Achievement Gap, aimed at eliminating the educational achievement gap experienced by children from high-poverty areas;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE  
MINNEAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL:

THAT WE HONOR MAYOR DON FRASER'S COMMITMENT  
AND SERVICE TO THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS AND PROCLAIM  
FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2014,

## DON FRASER DAY