

2009-J6487

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Assistant Commissioner for Community Relations Edward J. Lewis upon the occasion of his retirement from the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body seeks to acknowledge those individuals whose professional lives and civic endeavors serve to enhance the stature of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Edward Lewis has rendered faithful, conscientious and valuable service to the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation; and

WHEREAS, In his capacity as Assistant Commissioner for Community Relations, Edward Lewis served with loyalty, honor and distinction; and

WHEREAS, Edward Lewis supervises and facilitates the securing of grants and funding for parks and park property; in the past four years, working with other Parkies, he successfully obtained over \$30 Million in funding and also served as the Director of African American & Caribbean Affairs in the David Dinkins Administration; and

WHEREAS, As an entrepreneur, Edward Lewis was the President of Lewis & Associates, a business consulting and labor relations company providing marketing, training and business counseling services to small businesses and construction companies; for ten years, he was the President/CEO of GMS Printing & Marketing, Inc., servicing Fortune 500 companies; from 1961 to 1967, Edward Lewis was a New York City Fireman and Fire Marshal; he was awarded the Probationary Fireman of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, A community activist and trade unionist, Edward Lewis was the first P.T.A. President of P.S. 80Q and still serves as an advisor and participates in the reading program for the students; he is a former Civic Association President, delegate to the New York Central Labor Council and Chairman of the Labor & Industry Committee of the Jamaica Branch NAACP; and

WHEREAS, Edward Lewis was the Executive Assistant to the President and Director of Organizing with Local 144 SEIU and an International Representative with the United Paper Workers International Union; he is a Registered Agent with the New York State Department of Labor where he

represents claimants seeking unemployment entitlements; and

WHEREAS, Edward Lewis is a native New Yorker and a resident of South-east Queens; he attended public schools of New York City, Oswego State University and is a graduate of the Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations; he is a widower with three children and eight beautiful grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lewis has received the 1995 Volunteer of the Year Award from NEWSDAY, the Man of the Year Award from Omega Psi Phi, the Queens Borough President's Appreciation Award, the Jamaica Branch NAACP Excellence Award and numerous other awards for his service to the community and volunteer activity; and

WHEREAS, In his official acts, Edward Lewis was governed by a keen sense of duty and always showed a unique grasp of human problems; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure at the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, Edward Lewis earned the admiration, esteem and affection of his colleagues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Assistant Commissioner for Community Relations Edward J. Lewis upon the occasion of his retirement from the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Edward J. Lewis.