

2013-K87

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending James Hodge, Chairman of the Board of the Long Beach Martin Luther King Center, Pastor Isaac Melton, and the Center for their extraordinary service following Superstorm Sandy

WHEREAS, The City of Long Beach, New York, was devastated by Superstorm Sandy; and

WHEREAS, Although the Long Beach Martin Luther King Center on Riverside Boulevard in Long Beach sustained considerable damage from the storm, it has been able to put part of the building to use as a distribution center to provide people with the largely donated supplies, food and services they so desperately need during this time of recovery and rebuilding; and

WHEREAS, The MLK Center has been receiving and gratefully accepting donations from individuals, companies and organizations, but the needs of the community are still overwhelming; and

WHEREAS, The MLK Center has been providing hot meals, at the Center and within the community, for homebound seniors and other residents and continues to reach out to the children, families, seniors, and all others in the community who have been affected by the storm; and

WHEREAS, The City of Long Beach has commenced reconstruction of the MLK Center at 615 Riverside Boulevard; while the building is temporarily closed for repairs, the services it provides continue to be provided; and

WHEREAS, Since Superstorm Sandy, the MLK Center has been a key point of distribution for clothing and household items; additionally mobile laundry and shower units for residents who have been without power and appliances have been made available and, to facilitate service, the distribution center and mobile facilities have been relocated to 515 Long Beach Road, SW; and

WHEREAS, The MLK Center is a critical part of the Long Beach community, hosting countless programs and events; as the City moves into long-term recovery, much needed repairs to the center will be made and, with the restoration under way, the Center will soon be back serving the community better than ever; and

WHEREAS, The leadership of Pastor Isaac R. Melton, Jr. and Chairman of the MLK Center Board James Hodge has been exceptional and their contributions to the community, particularly in the aftermath of Sandy, have been truly remarkable; and

WHEREAS, The MLK Center has been a beacon of inspiration after the storm; with incredible resources flowing to the north park community, the whole community has come together; and

WHEREAS, The MLK Center has been a welcoming gathering place where people have come to share, to care, to encourage, and even to cry; the storm is over and the community is moving forward; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend James Hodge, Chairman of the Board of the Long Beach Martin Luther King Center, Pastor Isaac Melton, and the Center for their extraordinary service following Superstorm Sandy; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to James Hodge, Pastor Isaac Melton, and the MLK Center for their extraordinary service following Superstorm Sandy.