



THE CITY OF OKLAHOMA CITY

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION

WHEREAS, James D. Couch was hired as the Director of Water Resources on August 17, 1987; appointed as MAPS Program Director/Assistant City Manager on February 6, 1998; and appointed City Manager on November 9, 2000; and

WHEREAS, James D. Couch was the 28th City Manager under the Council-Manager form of government established in 1926 and the longest serving City Manager with 18 years and 2 months and over 31 years of public service to The City of Oklahoma City; and

WHEREAS, James D. Couch, as the Chief Administrative Officer, was responsible for the management and day-to-day operation of 4,700 employees and a total budget of \$1.57 billion; and

WHEREAS, James D. Couch served on the City's Airport Trust, Water Utilities Trust, Zoological Trust and the Central Oklahoma Transportation and Parking Authority; and

WHEREAS, James D. Couch served as General Manager of the Water Utilities Trust, McGee Creek Authority, Metropolitan Area Schools Trust, Riverfront Redevelopment Authority, Economic Development Trust, Municipal Facilities Authority, Public Property Authority, and the Environmental Assistance Trust; and

WHEREAS, he served the Oklahoma City community on the Downtown Oklahoma City Board of Directors, Allied Arts, Oklahoma Fair Board, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and as an ex officio member of the Oklahoma Health Center Foundation, and Chairman-elect of United Way of Central Oklahoma and President of the Oklahoma Municipal League; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as City Manager, he led efforts to ensure the City's long-term access to dependable water sources by securing rights to Canton Lake and Sardis Lake; and he negotiated two agreements with the NBA to relocate the New Orleans Hornets and the relocation of the Oklahoma City Thunder—putting Oklahoma City on the international sports stage; and

WHEREAS, City Manager Couch managed \$340 million for the 2000 GO Bond Projects, \$835 million for the 2007 GO Bond Projects, \$972 million for the 2017 GO Bond Projects, \$390 million for the Metropolitan Area Projects capital construction program, \$514 million in sales tax, \$180 million for school bond projects for the Oklahoma City Metropolitan Public Schools, and \$777 million for the MAPS 3 program; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as City Manager, he served 27 Council members, 3 Mayors, and appointed 14 of the 15 current Department Directors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of The City of Oklahoma City that they do hereby express their deepest appreciation to James D. Couch for his dedication, integrity, professionalism, and vision during his 31 years of public service to The City of Oklahoma City; and wish him the best as he begins to write a new chapter in his life in the city that he loves.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of The City of Oklahoma City that it is their view that James D. Couch is the finest City Manager in the city's history, has served for a record amount of time and during a most historic and successful era, has served as a true public servant and a mentor to countless other public servants, and it is most appropriate that a lasting commemoration be made, and so it is hereby resolved that from henceforth the office building at 420 W. Main be known as the "James D. Couch Municipal Office Building" and that appropriate signage be created to denote it as such.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of The City of Oklahoma City that today, January 2, 2019, is hereby declared "Jim Couch Day" in Oklahoma City.

Adopted by the Council and Signed by the Mayor of The City of Oklahoma City this 2nd day of January 2019.

Attest:

Mayor David Holt

City Clerk