

**SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION
IN MEMORY OF ELAINE MITCHELL**

WHEREAS, Elaine Mitchell was born in Stamford on December 9, 1946 and was a lifelong resident, attending the former John J. Ryle Elementary School and Stamford High School; and

WHEREAS, Elaine Mitchell got her start in politics as a teenager, while working with longtime Stamford politician Ralph Lockhart, the first African-American elected to Stamford's Board of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Elaine Mitchell joined the Board of Representatives in 1986, representing the 2nd District, and rose to a position of leadership within the Board, serving as Chair of the Housing/Community Development/Social Services Committee and the Black and Latino Caucus, and was elected as Majority Leader in June, 2011. She was the first woman and the first African-American to fill that position. While on the Board of Representatives, Elaine was a member of the Steering, Fiscal and Legislative & Rules Committees, the Special Cost Savings and Revenue Enhancement Committee and the 2011 Special Committee on Redistricting; and

WHEREAS, Elaine Mitchell was most proud of her advocacy in the area of affordable housing and was instrumental in passing Stamford's One for One Housing Ordinance, which requires redevelopment projects that eliminate affordable housing units to build an equal number of new affordable housing units.

WHEREAS, Elaine Mitchell dedicated much of her time to the larger Stamford community, serving on the Board of Directors of CTE, the Stamford Partnership, the Stamford NAACP, the Waterside Coalition, the Southwestern CT Agency on Aging and the Chester Addison Community Center and as a member of the Board of Trustees at Greater Faith Tabernacle Baptist Church. Her service to the community was recognized in 2012, when she received the prestigious Benjamin L. Hooks Civil Rights Award from the NAACP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 30th Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford remembers and honors Elaine Mitchell for her commitment and service to the Stamford Community.

*Approved by the 30th Board of Representatives
this 8th day of September, 2020*

Matthew Quinones, President

Susan Nabel, Clerk