

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize and honor Dr. Delon Hampton, PhD, a trailblazing African American in the field of civil engineering, for his contributions to the profession, the Black community, and the District of Columbia, on the occasion of his death at 87 years of age.

WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton was born in Jefferson, Texas, in 1933, the youngest child of his parents Charles and Alzadie Douglas;

WHEREAS, after his mother died from complications from his birth, Dr. Hampton was raised by Elizabeth Hampton, his maternal aunt, on the Southside of Chicago;

WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton beat improbable odds growing up poor and Black in the inner city to go on to college at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign, where in 1954 he received his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering;

WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton continued his education and went on to earn his Master of Science (1958) and Doctor of Philosophy (1961) in Civil Engineering from Purdue University, where he later was awarded an Honorary Doctorate;

WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton worked as a Professor and Senior Research Engineer before moving to Washington D.C. and joining the faculty of Howard University in 1968;

WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton remained a Professor and researcher for 25 years;

WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton published over 40 papers in professional and technical journals, and would also chronicle his experiences and challenges as an African American in the engineering field;

WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton worked as a Managing Partner at Gnaedinger, Baker, Hampton, and Associates, a Washington, D.C. area geotechnical engineering services firm;

WHEREAS, in 1973, Dr. Hampton founded his own engineering firm, Delon Hampton & Associates, in Washington D.C. at a time when there were few Black-owned engineering companies;

45 WHEREAS, Delon Hampton & Associates was one of the first Certified Business  
46 Enterprises registered in Washington, D.C.;

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48 WHEREAS, under his leadership, Delon Hampton & Associates expanded to include  
49 offices in Atlanta, Los Angeles, Memphis, Champaign Urbana, Silver Spring, and Baltimore;

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51 WHEREAS, Delon Hampton & Associates is an award-winning multi-million dollar  
52 company and is recognized as one of the top 360 design firms in the United States;

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54 WHEREAS, Delon Hampton & Associates has held 40+ year contracts with federal  
55 partners to include the Federal Transit Authority and the General Services Administration and  
56 local partners to include the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, the Washington  
57 Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, DC  
58 Water, and DC Department of Transportation.

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60 WHEREAS, Delon Hampton & Associates' projects include the U.S. Capitol Visitor's  
61 Center; international airports in Atlanta and the Washington, D.C. area; and metro rail stations in  
62 Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and Atlanta.

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64 WHEREAS, after 47 years, Dr. Hampton's firm continues to provide civil and structural  
65 engineering as well as program and construction management services to the Washington, D.C.  
66 region;

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68 WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton advocated the need to professionalize the engineering field  
69 and encouraged persons, particularly African Americans, to pursue graduate degrees and  
70 leadership positions in the field;

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72 WHEREAS, in 1999, Dr. Hampton was elected as the first African American President of  
73 the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE);

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75 WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton established ASCE's Outstanding Projects and Leaders  
76 (OPAL) award which honors the lifetime achievements of leaders in civil engineering;

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78 WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton was awarded ASCE's James Laurie Prize and Edmund  
79 Friedman Professional Recognition Award;

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81 WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton was given the Distinguished Engineer Award by the National  
82 Society of Black Engineers;

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84 WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton served on the Board of Governors of the American Public  
85 Transit Association; as chair of the Business Member Board of Governors; and as member of the  
86 Board of Directors for the Greater Washington Board of Trade;

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88 WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton was honored as a Distinguished Engineering Alumnus and  
89 Old Master by Purdue University and awarded the Civil Engineering Alumni Association's  
90 Distinguished Alumnus Award by the University of Illinois;

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92           WHEREAS, in 2012, Dr. Hampton made a \$7.5 million gift to Purdue University's  
93 School of Civil Engineering to dedicate the Delon & Elizabeth Hampton Hall of Civil  
94 Engineering, named after the aunt who raised him;

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96           WHEREAS, Dr. Hampton's legacy continues as his company, Delon Hampton &  
97 Associates, remains headquartered in Washington D.C.

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99           RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this  
100 resolution may be cited as the "Dr. Delon Hampton Recognition Resolution of 2021".

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102           Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia celebrates the life and legacy of Dr.  
103 Delon Hampton for his contributions to the field of engineering, the Black community, and the  
104 District of Columbia on the occasion of his death at 87 years of age.

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106           Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.