M-NCPPC Resolution No. 22-03

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR ELIZABETH M. HEWLETT

WHEREAS, **ELIZABETH M. HEWLETT** – fondly known to most simply as "Betty" – has commendably served the nearly two million residents of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties during both her first and second chapters as the Chairman of the Prince George's County Planning Board and The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC); and

WHEREAS, as a young attorney, **BETTY HEWLETT** played a crucial and instrumental role in the modern civil rights history of Prince George's County by courageously navigating through the existing power structure, taking the first steps to advance the cause of Black leadership, and asserting the interests and needs for representation for African Americans in Prince George's County – all of which not only gave African Americans a seat at the table, but has helped the County emerge into the amazing, vibrant community it is today; and

WHEREAS, BETTY HEWLETT became the first African American and first woman to serve as Chairman of the Prince George's County Planning Board and M-NCPPC in the 94-year history of the organization where she directed the agency with 6,000 employees, a unionized park police force, and a \$395 million operating budget, managed public, quasi-judicial hearings on land-use matters, and maintained oversight of innovative community planning services and first-class parks and recreation programs; and

WHEREAS, in testimony to her twenty-nine-year journey within the Commission, in addition to her role as Chairman of the Prince George's County Planning Board, **BETTY HEWLETT** admirably provided key contributions in several leadership capacities including Chairman and Vice Chairman of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the M-NCPPC Employees' Retirement System, and Principal Counsel in the Office of the General Counsel; and

WHEREAS, over the years and as an extension of her considerable talents and leadership skills, **BETTY HEWLETT** was appointed by County Executives Wayne K. Curry and Rushern Baker to Chair the Prince George's County Census 2000 and 2020 initiatives and she built and maintained successful professional relationships with appointed and elected officials, the business, development, and legal communities, civic and community organizations, and residents; and

WHEREAS, throughout her distinguished career with the Commission, **BETTY HEWLETT** earned numerous awards, honors, and accolades from local, state, and national organizations, guided the agency to earning a AAA bond rating from all three rating agencies,

and led M-NCPPC to receiving its fifth and sixth National Gold Medal Awards for excellence in parks and recreation management from the National Recreation and Park Association; and

WHEREAS, as a testament to her abiding integrity and devotion to serving in the public interest, **BETTY HEWLETT** has earned the unbridled support, accolades and expressions of support from three County Executives, dozens of colleagues on the County Council and countless other elected officials and civic leaders throughout Maryland, the region and Prince George's County; and

WHEREAS BETTY HEWLETT is retiring from the Commission and will be sorely missed by her colleagues and many friends, both in the Commission and throughout the bicounty region, not only for her outstanding leadership and mentorship, but also for her dedication and commitment to creating positive, diverse, equitable, and inclusive environments and enjoyable programming and recreation services for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission congratulates **BETTY HEWLETT** on her retirement, thanks **BETTY** for her sage guidance, demonstrated leadership, and unwavering dedication to the Commission, and extends wishes for the very best of health, happiness, and success in future endeavors.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission on motion of Commissioner Geraldo, seconded by Commissioner Rubin, with Commissioners Anderson, Bailey, Cichy, Doerner, Geraldo, Patterson, Rubin and Verma voting in favor of the motion, Commissioner Washington voting in favor after the meeting, and Vice-Chair Hewlett abstaining, at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 16, 2022, via videoconference and broadcast by the Montgomery County Planning Department.

Asuntha Chiang-Smith Executive Director

Casey Anderson, M-NCPPC Chair

Gerald Cichy, Commissioner

Tina Patterson, Commissioner

Carol Rubin, Commissioner

Partap Verma, Commissioner

APPROVED FOR LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

s\ Debra S. Borden

M-NCPPC Legal Department

March 3, 2022

Dorothy Bailey, Commissioner

William Doerner, Commissioner

Manuel Geraldo, Commissioner

A. Shuanise Washington, Commissioner