

Introduced by: Mayor Matherly and Council Members  
Cleworth, Rogers, and Therrien

Finance Committee Review: June 9, 2020

Date: June 15, 2020

## **RESOLUTION NO. 4918**

### **A RESOLUTION TO HONOR KAREN K. LAVERY BY RENAMING THE FAIRBANKS TRANSPORTATION CENTER THE LAVERY TRANSPORTATION CENTER**

**WHEREAS**, Karen K. Lavery was born on April 20, 1936 to R. K. and Mildred Lavery at St. Joseph's Hospital in Fairbanks, Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, Karen's grandfather, Robert Lavery, brought the first load of medicine to Fairbanks and later opened a grocery store in 1905 called House of Quality Lavery and Baily Grocery; and

**WHEREAS**, Karen grew up in downtown Fairbanks before attending college, getting married, and raising two children outside Alaska; she returned to Fairbanks in 1974; and

**WHEREAS**, during the pipeline years, Karen made it her life mission to ensure downtown Fairbanks was lively, vibrant, and tourist-friendly; and

**WHEREAS**, Karen established the Downtown Association Fairbanks in 1979 with the goal to revitalize the Fairbanks core economy, and she served as the Executive Director for over 30 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Downtown Association Fairbanks, under Karen's watch, was an integral part in:

- Refurbishing the Co-op building, converting it into retail and office space;
- Refurbishing the Fairbanks Community Museum in Historic City Hall;
- Creating the Summer and Winter Solstice Celebrations;
- Joining with the national Main Street organization;
- Helping to bring the Marriott Hotel to Fairbanks;
- The Bridge of Flags;
- Historical research and maintenance of Clay Street Cemetery;
- Working with the City on the Utilidor project;
- Assisting with the Community Health Center;
- The assistance program for troubled youth to help revamp the downtown image, including painting of buildings, planting of gardens, and adding planters; and


**WHEREAS**, Karen was well aware that parking is a key component of every downtown and assembled a working group of concerned citizens and City staff to help design, fund, and construct a new parking facility; and

**WHEREAS**, after clearing incredible obstacles, the Fairbanks Transportation Center was completed in 2002 and has served as an important anchor in the core of Fairbanks; and

**WHEREAS**, Karen was a passionate leader who saw the good in all people, and her commitment to the heart of Fairbanks is unprecedented.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Fairbanks City Council that the Fairbanks Transportation Center be renamed the Lavery Transportation Center in honor of Karen K. Lavery and the incredible work she did during her lifetime for the citizens of Fairbanks.

**PASSED** and **APPROVED** this 15th day of June 2020.



**Jim Matherly, City Mayor**

AYES: PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None  
APPROVED: June 15, 2020

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk  
Paul J. Ewers, City Attorney