

BY: Senator MAYER

HONORING Charles B. Strome, III upon the occasion of his retirement after many years of distinguished service to the City of New Rochelle, New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of esteemed residents of this noble Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Charles B. Strome, III upon the occasion of his retirement after 33 years of distinguished service to the City of New Rochelle, New York; and

WHEREAS, For the past three decades, Charles B. Strome rendered faithful, conscientious and valuable service to the City of New Rochelle, earning the admiration, esteem and affection of his colleagues; and

WHEREAS, Charles B. Strome began his illustrious career with the City of New Rochelle in 1989 as Director of Emergency Services before becoming Assistant City Manager/City Coordinator in 1992; he was later appointed as Deputy City Manager in 1995, then Acting City Manager in April of 2002, followed by the esteemed position of City Manager in November 2002, the role from which he will officially retire on December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, In his capacity as City Manager, Charles B. Strome served with loyalty, honor and distinction, and was governed by a keen sense of duty and always showed a unique grasp of human problems in his official acts; and

WHEREAS, A proud resident of New Rochelle for 27 years, Charles B. Strome worked to ensure the City maintained secure financial footing, prosperity and a strong fund balance despite various economic challenges he was presented with such as the financial recession of 2008 and the global COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure, Charles B. Strome worked to build and maintain City staff by attracting a professional leadership team, advocating for the retention and expansion of essential service personnel and ensuring workforce stabilization by negotiating multi-year contracts with the City's seven unions; and

WHEREAS, A great accomplishment which marks Charles B. Strome's last years in office includes the passage of a Downtown Overlay Zone which attracted over 2.2 billion dollars in investments; the City's infrastructure also received much-needed improvements, with expanded paving programs, stormwater enhancements, equipment upgrades, master plans for a number of City parks, and new maintenance facilities for

Parks and Public Works crews; and

WHEREAS, Charles B. Strome worked with officials, staff and community partners to coordinate the City's response to local disasters including Nor'easters, hurricanes, tropical storms and most recently, the COVID-19 pandemic, delivering critical services to local residents; and

WHEREAS, With a steadfast and unwavering commitment to his community, Charles B. Strome currently serves as Chair of the New Rochelle Industrial Development Agency and Chair of the New Rochelle Corporation for Local Development; he is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Westchester Municipal Officials Association, and Co-Chair of the City School District's District Wide Health and Safety Committee and Save Committee; and

WHEREAS, Professionally, Charles B. Strome is a member of the International City Managers' Association, and former President of the New York State City/County Managers Association; he is also a past President, Vice President, and Secretary of the Municipal Administrators Association of Metropolitan New York; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the years, the City Manager built strong relationships with municipal leaders from neighboring communities and worked collaboratively with elected representatives at all levels of government to address common concerns; and

WHEREAS, Charles B. Strome led a City Administration characterized by integrity, civility, and kindness, while also tackling some of the most consequential challenges and intense crises in the City's history; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Charles B. Strome, III upon the occasion of his retirement, and to wish him continued success in all his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Charles B. Strome, III.