

**BY:** Senator MAYER

**COMMEMORATING** the 100th Anniversary of White Plains City Hall, and honoring its historical, architectural, and civic significance

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor historic milestones that reflect the heritage, civic pride, and enduring values of the communities of the State of New York; and

**WHEREAS,** White Plains City Hall, also known as the Municipal Building, located at 255 Main Street at E. J. Conroy Drive in the City of White Plains, County of Westchester, marks its 100th Anniversary, having been completed and dedicated in 1926; and

**WHEREAS,** White Plains City Hall is a distinguished example of Colonial Revival architecture and was designed by Joseph H. Freeland, President of the Fine Arts Federation of New York, and constructed by John O'Rourke and Son; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1919, a citizen committee in the newly incorporated City of White Plains recommended the construction of a City Hall to serve as a memorial to the servicemen of White Plains who sacrificed their lives during the First World War (1917-1918); and

**WHEREAS,** In 1923, the Common Council of the City of White Plains approved a referendum authorizing the allocation of \$500,000 for the construction of the Municipal Building, reflecting the strong public commitment to both civic governance and remembrance; and

**WHEREAS,** Upon its dedication on February 22, 1926, approximately 3,000 people gathered within the upper and lower levels of the building to participate in the opening ceremonies, an event that underscored the importance of the structure to the community; and

**WHEREAS,** While the brick and sandstone facade of White Plains City Hall is the subject of its landmark designation, the building's interior holds equal historic and commemorative value, including the Rotunda lobby containing bronze memorials honoring White Plains residents who fought and died in all of the Nation's wars since the American Revolution; and

**WHEREAS,** The second-floor lobby outside the Common Council Chamber contains brass portraits memorializing all White Plains residents who lost their lives during the First World War, further affirming the building's role as a place of remembrance and reflection; and

**WHEREAS,** Since its completion, White Plains City Hall has continuously served as the center of municipal government for the City of White Plains, symbolizing democratic governance, civic engagement, and public service; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1933, during the City's celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the first non-native settlement of White Plains, more than 5,000 marchers participated in a parade culminating at City Hall, where President Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed the community from its steps, marking a moment of national and local historical significance; and

**WHEREAS,** The centennial of White Plains City Hall provides an appropriate occasion to honor its architectural distinction, its role as a memorial to fallen servicemembers, and its enduring service to the residents of White Plains and the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of White Plains City Hall and to recognize its profound historical, architectural, and civic importance; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the City Hall of White Plains, New York.