



# City of Chicago



R2020-693

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	9/9/2020
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	Lightfoot (Mayor)
<b>Type:</b>	Resolution
<b>Title:</b>	Congratulations extended to radio station 95.1 and owner Tracey V. Bell on 1st anniversary as a Black-woman owned radio station
<b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b>	



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

LORI E. LIGHTFOOT  
MAYOR

September 9, 2020

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith a resolution congratulating radio station 95.1 and owner Tracey V. Bell.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori E. Lightfoot". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lori" being the most prominent.

Mayor

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, The Members of this Body are pleased to congratulate 95.1 FM Chicago as it celebrates its first anniversary as a Black woman-owned radio station; and

**WHEREAS**, 95.1 FM Chicago's Chicago-style steppin' format began in 2005 as Internet radio station *Clubsteppin* by veteran radio programmer Lamont Watts. The station expanded into FM broadcasting in August 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, Tracey V. Bell purchased 95.1 FM from Windy City Broadcasting in August 2019, having affiliated herself with the station after a long and illustrious career in the corporate world; and

**WHEREAS**, Prior to taking the helm at 95.1 FM Chicago, Ms. Bell worked in a variety of fields, beginning her career in the radio broadcast division of Johnson Publishing Company before turning to corporate strategy and integrated marketing for several retail brands; and

**WHEREAS**, Of the more than ten thousand radio stations in the United States, only 20 are licensed to Black women. Under Ms. Bell's ownership, 95.1 FM Chicago remains the only Black-owned FM radio station in Chicago, the nation's third largest media market; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Bell uses her platform as the owner of 95.1 FM Chicago to uplift small businesses and the communities they serve through initiatives such as "We Are Chicago," which has provided relief to small businesses that have been pummeled by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, 95.1 FM Chicago partnered with Mayor Lori Lightfoot for the station's "The Mayor's Minute" segment, which provided listeners with information during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, With more than 50 percent of its on-air personalities being women, including program director Kris Hutchinson (known on-air as "First Lady"), 95.1 FM Chicago has more female broadcasters than any other station in Chicago; and

**WHEREAS**, 95.1 FM Chicago is the only music station in Chicago catering to Black adults 35 and over as its primary demographic, providing listeners with a mix of classic R&B, Chicago house, gospel, and smooth jazz; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this ninth day of September, 2020, do hereby congratulate radio station 95.1 FM on its first anniversary as an African-American woman-owned radio station; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Tracey V. Bell as a sign of our congratulations and good wishes.