



City of Chicago



R2014-76

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	2/5/2014
Sponsor(s):	Fioretti (2)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Congratulations extended to Erma Tranter on retirement from Friends of the Parks
Committee(s) Assignment:	

SALUTE TO ERMA TRANTER

WHEREAS, Erma Tranter is stepping down as President and Chief Executive Officer of Friends of the Parks, a position she has held for more than 33 years; and

WHEREAS, Due to Erma Tranter's leadership, Friends of the Parks has grown from a fledgling organization to one of the most respected and influential environmental advocacy organizations in the State of Illinois. During her tenure, various activities as well as a myriad of institutions and events have been established and fostered, such as the Chicago Marathon, the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance, the DuSable Coalition, and the Clean Harbors Initiative; and

WHEREAS, As a direct result of Erma Tranter's stewardship, hundreds of acres of land have been identified and transferred to the Chicago Park District, thus saved from private development. Projects such as the "Last Four Miles", an ongoing process to expand public lakefront, has been developed to complete the entire Chicago lakefront park system from the suburb of Evanston to the Indiana border; and

WHEREAS, It was through the efforts of Erma Tranter that two signature Chicago events, the L.A.T.E. Ride and the Earth Day Parks & Preserves Clean Up were initiated and continue to prosper. Thanks in great part to the work of Ms. Tranter, 23 acres of prairie and wetlands on the Northwest side of Chicago were saved from development and designated as the Dunning-Read Conservation Area as a permanent conservation easement. This area is currently being restored to their original native condition; and

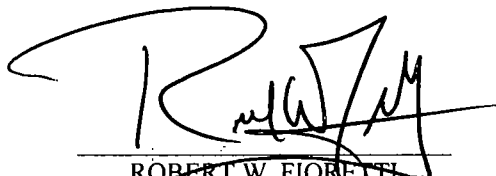
WHEREAS, Erma Tranter has encouraged and supported many partnerships with kindred organizations including Friends of the River, Friends of the Forest Preserves, Openlands, Chicago Area Runners Association and, especially, the Chicago Park District and the Forest Preserve District of Cook County; and

WHEREAS, For more than three decades, Ms. Tranter has been the driving force behind Friends of the Parks' ability to make a positive impact upon the quality of life enjoyed by the citizens of this city as well as this state through a variety of programs that focus on protection of land in the public trust such as Chicago's lakefront and neighborhood parks. The organization she has headed enlists citizens to "adopt" their local park, provides environmental education for hundreds of Chicago Public School children each year, presents lectures and tours as well as publishes a variety of pertinent literature; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Robert W. Fioretti, Alderman of the 2nd Ward, has apprised this august body of Erma Tranter's significant milestone, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council, gathered together on this 5th Day of February, 2014, do hereby salute Erma Tranter for her tireless dedication to the preservation and protection of this city's and state's parks and public lands and extend our very best wishes as she takes on new challenges in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Erma Tranter.



ROBERT W. FIORETTI
Alderman - 2nd Ward