

## City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building 414 Grant Street Pittsburgh, PA 15219

## **Text File**

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Committee: City Council Status: Adopted

**WHEREAS**, Valerie McDonald-Roberts has lead a distinguished career of public service, both for the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County and all those that reside within; and,

WHEREAS, Valerie McDonald-Roberts was raised in the East End. She graduated from Wilkinsburg High school before obtaining her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Pittsburgh; and,

WHEREAS, Valerie McDonald-Roberts first held public office as a Pittsburgh Public School Board Member in 1989, before rising to president of the board in 1993; and,

**WHEREAS**, Valerie McDonald-Roberts joined Pittsburgh City Council after winning a 1994 Special election, where she worked tirelessly for the constituents of Homewood, Lincoln-Lemington, East Hills, Garfield and East Liberty; and,

WHEREAS, in her time at Pittsburgh City Council, McDonald-Roberts was selected as the first African American female President Pro Tempore and Chairwoman of Pittsburgh City Council's Finance Committee, where she was a champion of responsible stewardship of Pittsburgh's Finances; and,

WHEREAS, McDonald-Roberts broke many barriers in her time at Pittsburgh City Council, before becoming the first African-American woman to hold a countywide office as the Recorder of Deeds, and subsequently became the Director of the Allegheny County Real Estate department; and,

WHEREAS, when Mayor William Peduto asked McDonald-Roberts to run his newly created Bureau of Neighborhood Empowerment, Valerie helped provide the city with her leadership in equity and inclusion; and,

WHEREAS, in addition to her time both working in and innovating public office, Valerie McDonald-Roberts attends church at St. Paul Baptist in Point Breeze, where she has taught Sunday School for more than 20 years; and,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does recognize, celebrate and thank all of the hard work that Valerie McDonald-Roberts has put in to make the City of Pittsburgh a better place; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does declare Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019 as "Valerie McDonald-Roberts Day" in the City of Pittsburgh.