



Legislation Details (With Text)

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**File created:** 6/14/2023      **In control:** Council Office

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**Title:** Recognizing, honoring and commemorating the life and legacy of Juan José López

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**Indexes:**

**Code sections:**

**Attachments:** 1. Sources Juan José López Honoring Resolution.pdf

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
6/20/2023	1	COMMON COUNCIL	Adopt	Pass
6/14/2023	1	Council Office	RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT	

**Fiscal Note**

No fiscal impact.

**Title**

Recognizing, honoring and commemorating the life and legacy of Juan José López

**Body**

WHEREAS, Juan José López was born in San Antonio, Texas on May 31, 1959, and passed away on June 6, 2023, at the age of 64 in Madison, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, Juan José came to Madison in 1977 as a University of Wisconsin-Madison freshman and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in social work; and,

WHEREAS, over the course of his career, Juan José served as the Executive Director at Briarpatch, Inc.; Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dane County; Director of Public Policy and External Relations for the Wisconsin Latino Chamber of Commerce; aide to Wisconsin Governor Anthony S. Earl; Policy & Planning Analyst for the Office of the Attorney General Peggy A. Lautenschlager; and Section Chief in the Bureau of Job Service in the Division of Employment & Training of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development; and,

WHEREAS, Juan José served on countless community organization boards, including the Latino Academy of Workforce Development; the Kids Fund; the Kids Fund's Youth Development Committee; One City Schools Foundation; Nuestro Mundo Community School; the Latino Professional Association of Greater Madison; the Latino Support Network (LaSup); the Board of Directors of United Migrant Opportunity Services; the Latino Chamber of Commerce of Dane County; and the Wisconsin Latino Chamber of Commerce. He served as President or Chair on many of the boards and was a founding member of several of the organizations; and,

WHEREAS, Juan José cofounded Adelante Madison, an organization that is centered on recruiting and training diverse candidates to run in local elections; and,

WHEREAS, Juan José served as a mentor for many Latina and Latino professionals; and,

WHEREAS, Juan José was elected to the first of three consecutive terms on the Madison School Board in 1994, becoming the Board's first Latino member and serving a total of 12 years; and,

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Madison School Board, Juan José championed many difficult issues, including hiring more teachers of color; advocating for dual-language instruction; and pushing for alternative programs for students needing additional support and encouragement; and,

WHEREAS, Juan José was a longtime and passionate activist not only for the Latino community, but also for the Hmong and Black communities; and,

WHEREAS, Juan José held a special place in his heart for youth, and he dedicated his life to advocating not only for Latinx students, but also for those students who are LGBTQ+, homeless, poor and have disabilities; and,

WHEREAS, Juan José will always be remembered for his devotion to advancing the rights and well-being of Latinos and the Madison community, his unfaltering honesty, and his ability to build community with everyone around him;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Common Council recognize, honor and commemorate the life and legacy of Juan José López.