



## Legislation Text

---

**File #:** 29867, **Version:** 1

---

### **Fiscal Note**

No Fiscal Impact.

### **Title**

Commending, honoring, and expressing appreciation to Percy Brown for his years of service with the City of Madison on the occasion of his retirement from public service.

### **Body**

WHEREAS, after graduating from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Master of Science Degree in Urban and Regional Planning, Percy Brown was hired by the City of Madison as a community planner in 1978 and;

WHEREAS Percy's first assignment was to develop a neighborhood plan for South Madison leading him to help found the Bram's Addition Neighborhood Association and develop the City's first South Madison comprehensive neighborhood plan which was adopted by the Common Council in 1981, and;

WHEREAS during his 8-year tenure in the Planning Division, Percy worked with neighborhoods and businesses to develop over seven neighborhood plans, and;

WHEREAS Brown has contributed to neighborhood resource teams, chaired the West Broadway Staff Team, served on the South Madison Neighborhood Center Board, led the Board of Directors of the South Madison Area Revitalization Corporation (SMARC), helped found the Genesis Development Corporation, and is an active member of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and the Carter G. Woodson Foundation, and;

WHEREAS as a City of Madison employee, Percy became an original member of the Minority Affairs Committee (MAC), and is a past Chair and the longest serving member in the history of this Committee and;

WHEREAS he helped lead the efforts, working with clergy and community leaders, the Mayor, Alder, and downtown business persons to rename Monona Avenue to Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, and;

WHEREAS Percy is the recipient of the Unsung Hero Award by the NAACP Madison Branch and an honor award by the Mt. Zion Baptist Church for his leadership in the building of the new Church, and;

WHEREAS Percy was promoted to lead the Office of Economic Revitalization and was appointed Deputy Executive Director and Deputy Executive Secretary to the Community Development Authority of the City of Madison (CDA) and;

WHEREAS Percy was instrumental in the development of the Monona Shores-Waunona Woods Revitalization Project, winner of the prestigious National Meritorious Achievement Award from the National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies (NALHFA), and;

WHEREAS Percy managed and led the development of many City programs including the Housing Rehabilitation Services Program (HRSP), the "Home-Buy" Down payment Assistance Loan Program, the Façade Improvement Grant Program, the "Own Downtown" Single-Family Bond Program, the "AFFORDS" Lease-Purchase Program and the Small Cap TIF programs, and;

WHEREAS these programs have provided over \$50 million in loans and grants to improve and preserve the housing stock and make home ownership a reality for hundreds of families and individuals and helped strengthen dozens of Madison businesses and neighborhoods;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Madison on behalf of the citizens of Madison do hereby commend, honor and express gratitude and appreciation to Percy Brown for his outstanding service to the City of Madison and that the Mayor and Common Council join all City employees in wishing Percy and his wife Virginia happiness and good fortune in the future.

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be given to Percy as a symbol of our appreciation and gratitude for his service to the City of Madison.