Resolution Honoring the Career and Retirement of Donna Pugh

WHEREAS, the Members of the Chicago City Council take great pleasure in recognizing individuals whose careers have exemplified professional excellence, civic engagement, and dedication to the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Donna Pugh, Partner at Foley & Lardner LLP, has served as one of Chicago's foremost land use and zoning attorneys for more than four decades, combining legal acumen with a deep understanding of city processes and community collaboration; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Pugh was admitted to the Illinois Bar in November 1983 and will officially retire on January 31, 2026, marking over 42 years of distinguished practice during which she guided countless projects that have helped shape Chicago's skyline and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, through her work at Foley & Lardner LLP and her leadership roles with civic organizations such as the Magnificent Mile Association, Ms. Pugh became known for balancing innovation with respect for community character, ensuring that development in our city advanced responsibly and sustainably; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Pugh's mentorship and professionalism have inspired generations of attorneys, city planners, and business leaders who have benefited from her thoughtful counsel and unwavering integrity; and

WHEREAS, born in Baltimore, Maryland, and raised in Florida, Ms. Pugh is the daughter of Frank and Rose Pugh. Frank being an electrical engineer, test pilot, and developer of modern autopilot systems, and Rose, now 97 years old, a vibrant storyteller who remains active and engaged; and

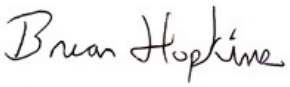
WHEREAS, Donna met her beloved husband, Scott Joyner, while in college, where their spirited competition over marathon games of Risk blossomed into a lifelong partnership now in its 46th year, marked by shared adventures in sailing, kayaking, and hiking; and

WHEREAS, an avid outdoorswoman, Ms. Pugh has raced sailboats as a bowman in Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac and local regattas, and more recently has taken to paddleboarding on Lake Michigan and the Paw Paw and Galien Rivers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered this day in open session, do hereby honor and commend Donna Pugh for her remarkable legal career, her enduring contributions to the civic and physical landscape of our city, and her example of a life lived with passion, grace, and integrity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Donna Pugh as a token of our gratitude and best wishes for a joyful and fulfilling retirement.

Sincerely,



Brian Hopkins
Alderman 2nd Ward