

# Resolution



ORDER NO. 2015-1013

DATE: August 11, 2015

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 11th day of August 11, 2015 a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner District 1, and seconded by John Willey Price, Commissioner District 3, the following Resolution was adopted:

**WHEREAS**, May 2, 2014 marked the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of **Hamilton Park**, a community created in 1954 to address the significant housing shortage exacerbated by the bombing and demolition of many African Americans homes in Dallas County. In 1949, Karl S.J. Hoblitzelle proposed to the trustees of the Hoblitzelle Foundation to build a large African American development. The Foundation loaned funds to the Dallas Citizen's Interracial Association which raised additional funds to purchase the 233-acre site for a middle class community; and

**WHEREAS**, **Hamilton Park** is the first African American inspired suburban development in the City of Dallas, a jewel located in the heart of North Dallas. It was named in honor of Dr. Richard T. Hamilton, an African American physician and civic leader. Many of the streets were named after local leaders, donors, and celebrities such as Karl Hoblitzelle, Louis Tobian, Statesman Ralph Bunche, entertainers Harry Bellafonte and Dorothy Dandridge, baseball star Roy Campanella, to name a few; and

**WHEREAS**, Determined African American men and women, some of whom were returning to Dallas having bravely served their country during WWII, ventured to North Dallas to purchase land and nurture a family-oriented community of two-parent households with shared values, morals and traditions (a marriage certificate was required to purchase a home in Hamilton Park); and

**WHEREAS**, **Hamilton Park** is known as a quiet, stable and responsible community settled by professionals, blue collar workers, educators, clergyman, business owners, entertainers, and scholars. Completed in 1961, the community consists of 742 single-family dwellings, an apartment complex, shopping center, twelve-grade school (now a six-grade pacesetter magnet school), several churches and a park complete with a playground, swimming pool, tennis court, and baseball diamond; and

**WHEREAS**, Various civic and social institutions were formed to sustain the needs of the community such as the Hamilton Park Civic League, the Inter-Organization Council, the Garden Club, the PTA, and the Dads Club. The most recent organization created was the Hamilton Park Historic Preservation Foundation. Most notably, the majority of these organizations remain as viable institutions; and

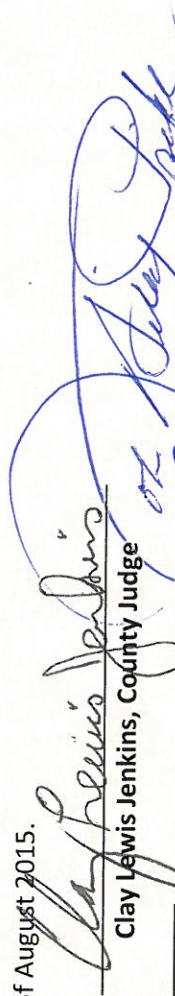
**WHEREAS**, Today, **Hamilton Park** remains a predominately African American community. There have been many changes over the years, yet the essence and pride of Hamilton Park still exists through the work of the community leaders, the first homeowners and their descendants. The new generations, guided by the teachings of their parents and mentors, continue to serve in a variety of community and civic roles throughout Dallas County and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, **Hamilton Park** will commemorate its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during the Hamilton Park School Wide Reunion on August 14, 2015-August 16, 2015. The theme is "Unity, Progress, Prosperity – Building a Historic Legacy." The School Wide Reunion is open to anyone from the community or who attended the Hamilton Park School, a *true Bobcat*, their friends, corporate and civic partners.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on behalf of the Dallas County Commissioner Court, we call upon all citizens to join in the celebration of **Hamilton Park's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** recognizing that we draw strength and inspiration from the men and women who diligently worked to create a better life for future generations, leaving a legacy that is next to none.

**DONE IN OPEN COURT** this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2015.

  
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Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner District 1

  
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Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge

John Wiley Price, Commissioner District 3

  
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Mike Cantrell, Commissioner District 2

  
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Dr. Elba Garcia, Commissioner District 4