



**Please see the below statement from Rochester City Council President Miguel A. Meléndez, Jr., on behalf of the entire Rochester City Council, regarding the passing of Iris Banister:**

Iris Banister was a Rochester visionary and one of the most impactful, civically-minded people to ever grace our City. Today, as we learn of her passing, the members of Rochester City Council stand united in our grief and mourning.

Iris, the “Queen Mother,” was a community leader unlike any other. Her 32-year-long career with the Rochester City School District touched the lives of countless Rochester students, many of whom have grown to spread her work ever further. Iris was a true force for good, a pioneer of culturally-focused education and an icon of community service.

We send our well wishes and condolences to Iris’ family, and vow to celebrate her life by continuing to spread her ideals of engagement, compassion and inclusion.

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