



Memorializing Resolution of the City Council - #0003-2024

Sponsored by: **LaShay D. Harris**, Council Vice President, South District Representative

Cosponsored by: **Michael A. Patterson**, Councilmember, Northeast District

To The Honorable
Rochester City Council
30 Church Street
Rochester, New York 14614

RE: Memorializing the Governor & New York State Legislature to Create a New York State Housing Access Voucher Program

Honorable Council Members:

We ask you to join us by signing your name on this Memorializing Resolution to create a New York State Housing Access Voucher Program (as shared in the December 2023 Children’s Agenda Report) to shorten housing waits and to help people find affordable housing and in doing so, to collectively **State and Resolve:**

WHEREAS, We, the undersigned members of Rochester City Council, urge state lawmakers to fund the Housing Access Voucher Program to reduce the number of unhoused people in New York; and

WHEREAS, housing is not only a matter of affordability – it is also about quality and stability; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Access Voucher Program would offer a statewide program and ensure thousands of New York families keep a roof over their heads; and

WHEREAS, a State housing voucher would reach thousands of New Yorkers unserved by the underfunded and overly restrictive existing rental assistance; and

WHEREAS, new resources for additional housing vouchers and services will broaden housing choices; and

WHEREAS, having more vouchers in 2024 is critically important – due to limited funding (only one in four eligible households receives any federal rental assistance); and

WHEREAS, rising rents are impacting people with the lowest incomes, which forces them to make unimaginable choices between paying for rent, food, medicine, or other basic needs; and

WHEREAS, this lack of affordable housing assistance disproportionately affects Black, Hispanic, Asian and Pacific Islander, and American Indian and Alaska Native households because of long-standing inequities stemming from structural racism in housing, education, and employment.

RE: Memorializing the Governor & New York State Legislature to Create a New York State Housing Access Voucher Program

Now, Therefore, be it RESOLVED, We, the undersigned Members of Rochester City Council, support the creation of a New York State Housing Access Voucher (as shared in the December 2023 Children's Agenda Report).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "LaShay D. Harris".

LaShay D. Harris, Vice President
South District

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Patterson".

Michael A. Patterson, Councilmember
Northeast District

xc Children's Agenda

attachment

RE: Memorializing the Governor & New York State Legislature to Create a New York State Housing Access Voucher Program

The following Councilmembers join their colleague in support of Memorializing Resolution 0003-24:



Miguel A. Meléndez, President
At-Large Representative



Mitch Gruber, Councilmember
At-Large Representative



Willie Lightfoot, Councilmember
At-Large Representative



Mary Lupien, Councilmember
East District Representative



Stanley Martin, Councilmember
At-Large Representative



Bridget Monroe, Councilmember
Northwest District Representative



Kim Smith, Councilmember
At-Large Representative