

In Memoriam



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa takes pride in recognizing those individuals whose commitment and dedication have made a lasting impact on our community and its citizens. One of these individuals was **Harold Billingslea Scott, Jr.**, a beloved and well-respected Public Servant and Community Activist who passed away on Sunday, November 19, 2017 at age 76; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Scott was born in the West Tampa, Florida community on January 31, 1941 to Lucile and the late Harold Billingslea Scott, Sr., and was a 1959 graduate of Howard W. Blake High School where he participated in school and civic activities, and he attended Tuskegee Institute in Alabama prior to transferring to Gibbs Junior College in St. Petersburg, Florida where he earned his Associate's Degree in Electrical Engineering, a field he had been interested in as a youth; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation from college, Mr. Scott worked as an electrician with the University of Tampa for a decade before beginning his career serving the Tampa community with the Model Cities and Urban Renewal Program as a Training Counselor and Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Inspector, and when the program merged with the City of Tampa in 1975, Mr. Scott's hard work and talents led to promotions within the Code Enforcement Department, ultimately as a Community Development Supervisor, and he greatly contributed to the division's success and impacted many quality of life improvements for the Tampa community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Scott served as a mentor and in several leadership roles including with the City of Tampa's Black History Committee where he was Parliamentarian and where he established and funded the *Harold B. Scott Jr. Academic Scholarship*, now administered in his honor by Greater Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, he was an advocate, educator and featured speaker for Prostate Cancer awareness with a focus on African American men, he was active with Advocates for a Better Life Foundation, was a long-standing member of the Woodland Terrace Neighborhood Association, he was an Ordained Deacon, and he sang semi-professionally and with several respected choirs; and

WHEREAS, well-known for his dedication and generosity to the Tampa community and its residents, Mr. Scott was recognized for his lifetime of dedication and service including a *Letter of Commendation* from the late United States Congressman Sam Gibbons, City of Tampa Code Enforcement's *Distinguished Service Medal*, the American Biographical Institute's *Community Leaders and Noteworthy Leaders Award*, and he was named City of Tampa's *Employee of the Month* several times during his tenure and received certificates of appreciation from organizations he was involved in; and

WHEREAS, an inspiration to all who knew him, and a man deeply committed to his faith, community and friends, Mr. Scott will be forever remembered for his devotion and love of his wife and family, his ethics, humble nature, kindness and respect for others, and although we are grieved at the loss of this outstanding citizen, his legacy will continue to live on through the improvements he brought to our community and in all those whose lives he has touched.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby urge all citizens to join me in publicly expressing sorrow and heartfelt appreciation to the Harold Billingslea Scott, Jr. Family, his wife Diane, sons Harold III and Eric, mother Lucile, Grandchildren, and other family members, and to express our hopes that they will take solace in their many cherished memories and the impact of his life on our city.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 30th day of November, 2017.



Mayor

