



Legislation Text

File #: RES 21-886, **Version:** 1

Establishing the Saint Paul City Council Legislative Advisory Committee on Reparations.

WHEREAS, the Saint Paul City Council adopted Resolution 21-77 on January 13, 2021 committing to racial healing through the exploration of reparations for American descendants of Chattel Slavery Living in Saint Paul; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 21-77 specifically

- 1) apologized and committed to making amends for -
 - a. its participation in and sanctioning of institutional racism against the American descendants of chattel slavery
 - b. Dred Scott being held in bondage at Fort Snelling and its enforcement of institutional racism and its accompanying discriminatory practices
 - c. allowing the construction of Interstate 94 to destroy a vibrant Black community and successful Black businesses
- 2) called on other to take action, including -
 - a. all organizations and institutions in Saint Paul that have advanced and benefited from racial inequity to join the city in these apologies and invites them to address racism within their own structures and programs and to work with the city to more comprehensively address systemic racism
 - b. the State of Minnesota and our federal delegation to initiate policymaking and provide funding for reparations at the state and national level
- 3) committed to establish a Legislative Advisory Committee -
 - a. to use its authority to establish, within the next six months, a legislative advisory committee to work with the Administration to create the roles and responsibilities for a new city commission to be known as the Saint Paul Recovery Act Community Reparations Commission
- 4) described the role of the Saint Paul Recovery Act Community Reparations Commission which
 - a. shall be empowered to make short, medium and long-term recommendations to specifically address the creation of generational wealth for the American Descendants of Chattel Slavery and to boost economic mobility and opportunity in the Black community
 - b. will make significant progress toward repairing the damage caused by public and private systemic racism in the City of Saint Paul, and
 - c. will issue a report for consideration by the city, which will focus on but not be limited to strategies to grow equity and generational wealth, closing the gaps in home ownership, health care, education, employment and pay, and fairness within criminal justice among the American descendants of chattel slavery

WHEREAS, under Section 3.01.8 of the City Charter, the Council has the authority to establish a legislative advisory committee for no longer than one year to bring forward policy and legislative recommendations for Council consideration on reparations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Saint Paul City Council establishes the Saint Paul Reparations Legislative Advisory Committee effective June 19, 2021 - also known as Juneteenth, the day which honors the end to slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Saint Paul City Council appoints **Veronica Burt, Trahern Crews and Yohuru Williams** as conveners of the Reparations Legislative Advisory Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Saint Paul City Council appoints **Theresa Cunningham, Lynette Harris, Amber Jones, Benjamin Mchie, Nick Muhammad, Jessica Nickrand, Jose Perez, Khulia Pringle, Vic Rosenthal and Jerry Thomas** as members of the Reparations Legislative Advisory Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Saint Paul City Council determines it is in the public interest to provide a nominal stipend to support to these community advisors who bring valuable perspectives and whose presence builds public trust, ensures transparency and accountability; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Saint Paul City Council establishes a \$50 stipend per meeting for the advisory committee conveners and members which is intended to help defray expenses associated with providing service to the committee for their time and effort spent participating; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Saint Paul City Council will provide professional and clerical staff support to the work of the Reparations Legislative Advisory Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Saint Paul City Council charges the committee with developing the policy proposals and enabling legislative proposals for the establishment of the Saint Paul Recovery Act Community Reparations Commission - whose mission it will be to recommend actions to address the creation of generational wealth for the American Descendants of Chattel Slavery and boost economic mobility and opportunity in the Black community; and be in finally

RESOLVED, the Saint Paul City Council requests a written report from the Reparations Legislative Advisory Committee no later than Friday June 10, 2022, which shall be presented to the City Council Wednesday June 15, 2022 at 10AM and the Reparations Legislative Advisory Committee disbanded thereafter.