

Wilmington, Delaware
August 24, 2023

#0337

Sponsor:

**Council
President
Congo**

WHEREAS, a *City Council Taskforce to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans, with a Special Consideration for African Americans Who are Descendants of Persons Enslaved in the United States* (hereinafter the "Taskforce"), was established by Resolution No. 20-080 as amended, and the composition amended by Resolution No. 22-007; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Taskforce are responsible to make findings and recommendations to City Council regarding issues of systemic racial disparity, racist practices and procedures and/or institutional discrimination against African Americans, resulting from the delivery or provision of City government services or the implementation or effect of City policies, and resulting from the delivery or provision of other government-provided services or widely implemented business practices or the implementation or effect of government policies or business practices; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20-080 as amended resolved that the Taskforce findings and recommendations be submitted to the Wilmington City Council "within 180 days of its [the Taskforce's] appointment," or July 2023; and

WHEREAS, to comply with the conventions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) regarding public bodies established by Chapter 100, Title 29 of the Delaware State Code, the Taskforce deemed it necessary to temporarily suspend its activities until such time as its members could receive further guidance on adapting their procedures to align with FOIA and properly notify the public of subsequent meetings; and

WHEREAS, on July 10, 2023, the Taskforce convened its first open meeting; held votes to elect the Chair and Vice Chair, respectively; and conducted an affirmative vote to request that the Wilmington City Council grant an extension of the submission date established by Resolution No. 20-080 as amended to accommodate the transition to FOIA-compliant meeting procedures.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that this Legislative body approves the request of the *City Council Taskforce to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans, with a Special Consideration for African Americans Who are Descendants of Persons Enslaved in the United States*, or the “Taskforce,” to modify the timeframe for presenting findings and recommendations to the City Council to begin with the date of the Taskforce’s first open meeting, held on July 10, 2023, and conclude on January 6, 2024, 180 calendar days from the date of the first open meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the expectation of this Legislative body that the Taskforce develop findings and recommendations, including but not limited to, the form of compensation that should be awarded, the instrumentalities through which it should be awarded, and who should be eligible for this compensation within the revised timeframe.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This resolution amends Resolution No. 20-080 as amended to modify the date of submission for the findings and recommendations of the *City Council Taskforce to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans, with a Special Consideration for African Americans Who are Descendants of Persons Enslaved in the United States*, or the “Taskforce,” to January 6, 2024, 180 days from the Taskforce’s first open meeting on July 10, 2023.