

WHEREAS: Reverend Doctor Lowery is a co-founder and chairman emeritus of the Black Leadership Forum, a consortium of natural black advocacy organizations, and he served as third president following Vernon Jordan and Benjamin Hooks. He co-chaired the 1990 Nelson Mandela visit to Atlanta following his release from prison and awarded Mandela the SCLC/Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Rights Award. He was keynote speaker at the African Renaissance Dinner in Durban in 1998 honoring Mandela's retirement. He led a peace delegation to the Middle East and met with the president of Lebanon and Yassir Arafat to seek justice in the Middle East by non-violent means. He led a peace delegation to Central America; and

WHEREAS: Reverend Doctor Lowery has been awarded eleven honorary doctorate degrees and has received innumerable awards and honors for his work on behalf of civil and human rights, economic justice, election reform, peace and non-violence; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record extending a very warm welcome to Cambridge to Reverend Doctor Joseph E. Lowery on the occasion of his delivery of the Keynote Speech at the Cambridge NAACP Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Reverend Doctor Joseph E. Lowery on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council January 9, 2006.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-



D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



City of Cambridge

R-62.

IN CITY COUNCIL

January 9, 2006

COUNCILLOR SIMMONS
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR KELLEY
COUNCILLOR MURPHY
MAYOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
VICE MAYOR TOOMEY

- WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of the Cambridge City Council that the Reverend Doctor Joseph E. Lowery has been selected to deliver the keynote speech at the Cambridge NAACP Annual Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King Breakfast; and
- WHEREAS: The NAACP has hailed Reverend Doctor Lowery "dean of the Civil Rights movement" and Ebony Magazine has named him as one of the nation's "15 Greatest Black Preachers;" and
- WHEREAS: As part of the celebration of his birthday (October 6, 2001), Clark-Atlanta University announced the establishment of the *Joseph E. Lowery Institute for Justice & Human Rights*. In addition, the Atlanta Board of Education instituted the *Joseph E. Lowery Lecture Series on Civic Participation*, and the Atlanta City Council voted to change the name of Ashy Street to *Joseph E. Lowery Boulevard*. At commencement (2003) of the University of Alabama awarded him the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. Boston University gave him its first Martin Luther King, Jr. Award, and Wayne University gave him the first Walter Reuther Humanitarian Award; and
- WHEREAS: Reverend Doctor Lowery is a co-founder with Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in 1957; he served as vice president (1957-67); chairman of the board (1967-77); and as president and chief executive officer from February 1977-January 15, 1998; and
- WHEREAS: As a United Methodist minister, he was elected as delegate to three General Conferences, and presided over an Annual Conference (acting bishop) in 1966. His prophetic voice was instrumental in moving the church toward the goal of inclusiveness; He served as pastor of United Methodist Churches in Mobile and Birmingham, Alabama, and Atlanta, GA where he pastored Central Church (Clark College was organized in this church) for 18 years. Thousand of members were added to the church, and a 240-unit housing development was constructed for low and moderate-income families-Central Methodist Gardens). He served as pastor of Cascade United Methodist church from 1986-92 leaving the church \$1 million, ten acres of land, and blueprints for the new edifice when he retired; and

RES 2006 #62

RESOLUTION #62

Welcome to the Reverend Dr.
Joseph E. Lowery as the keynote
speaker at the Reverend Doctor
Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial
Breakfast on February 4, 2006 at
the Hyatt Regency Hotel in
Cambridge.

**Councillor Simmons and entire
membership**

In City Council January 9, 2006

ORDER ADOPTED