

**Resolution No. 715-2020****By Council Members:** Griffin and McCormack

**An emergency resolution supporting displaced Service Employees International Union, Local 1 janitors, who have cleaned buildings in Downtown Cleveland for decades and urging that the displaced janitors are reinstated and that any cleaning contractor hired adheres to standards established by the terms and conditions of the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement which janitors have worked diligently to establish.**

**WHEREAS**, the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 1 Janitors work in many of the largest buildings in the Cleveland area, and they have established a standard for wages and benefits in downtown Cleveland over many decades through their union; and

**WHEREAS**, the SEIU Local 1 janitors have been recently displaced from employment after cleaning downtown Cleveland office buildings for decades; and

**WHEREAS**, these workers have maintained a clean and safe environment for the tenants and guests of those buildings, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council is concerned about the increasing disparity in our City between the wealthy and the poor, and the existence of too many low-wage jobs that keep citizens in a cycle of poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council believes that taxpayer dollars should support businesses and corporations that contribute to bringing and keeping livable wage jobs in our city; and

**WHEREAS**, SEIU Local 1 janitors who are now considered essential workers insure that tenants and guest in many of the downtown Cleveland buildings are in a clean and safe environment; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council values the contributions of SEIU Local 1 janitors and believes in the dignity of work for all workers; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council believes in the right for workers to organize collectively in order to bring about needed changes within their workplace; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council believes that all janitorial workers deserve consideration and respect, and that this council should not tolerate the unjust displacement of long-term janitorial employees; and

**WHEREAS**, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety, now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:**

**Section 1.** That this Council supports displaced Service Employees International Union, Local 1 janitors, who have cleaned buildings in Downtown Cleveland for decades and urges that the displaced janitors are reinstated and that any cleaning contractor hired adheres to standards established by the terms and conditions of the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement which janitors have worked diligently to establish.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk of Council is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to Yanela Sims, SEIU, Local 1 and to Michael Sabracos, CEO, Alto Partners.

**Section 3.** That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.