

# CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM



# Resolution

## ***HONORING KEVIN CHESHIRE FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO ASPIRE***

***WHEREAS***, Mr. Kevin Cheshire joined ASPIRE (Previously known as the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem) in 2013 as Vice President of Real Estate Development and General Counsel, and on January 14, 2020, was appointed Executive Director, bringing to the role a vision for innovation, inclusion, and long-term community development; and

***WHEREAS***, under Mr. Cheshire's leadership, ASPIRE embraced a modern, community-integrated approach to affordable housing, in part by securing the highly competitive \$30 million Choice Neighborhood Initiative Implementation Grant, as exemplified by the completion of the first phase of six at the Brown School Lofts — a well-designed, 81-unit, mixed-income development that reflects a shift away from the historical isolation of low-income families, and toward dignity, inclusion, and equitable opportunity; and

***WHEREAS***, Mr. Cheshire led the successful acquisition of \$10 million in new capital investment across the ASPIRE property portfolio, significantly enhancing the agency's capacity to meet current and future housing needs; and

***WHEREAS***, he played a pivotal role in revitalizing the long-neglected Happy Hill neighborhood, facilitating renewed development on lots dormant since 2004. Under his guidance, ASPIRE deeded over a dozen lots to Habitat for Humanity of Forsyth County in late 2023, enabling the construction of 13 new homes with city funding support; and

***WHEREAS***, Mr. Cheshire negotiated a master development agreement with a private developer for the construction of over 20 affordable single-family homes in Lansing Ridge, creatively repurposing land once considered unbuildable and expanding the city's affordable housing footprint; and

***WHEREAS***, Mr. Cheshire spearheaded the acquisition, debt restructuring, and redevelopment of The Heights apartment community (formerly SECU Commons) off Old Greensboro Road, transforming a vacant and underutilized site into a vibrant community that now includes a daycare, medical clinic, and market-rate housing; and

***WHEREAS***, he oversaw the completion of Brookside View, a 17-home development and the first self-developed, self-performed single-family housing project in ASPIRE's history, marking a significant operational milestone; and

***WHEREAS***, Mr. Cheshire guided the issuance of over \$20 million in affordable housing bonds, ensuring the preservation and stability of privately held affordable housing stock within the city; and

***WHEREAS***, Kevin Cheshire's tenure is distinguished by a steadfast commitment to equity, strategic development, and community empowerment, shaping ASPIRE into a model agency recognized for innovation, sustainability, and service to the people of Winston-Salem; and

***WHEREAS***, Mr. Cheshire led the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem to rebrand itself as ASPIRE, following a national trend away from outdated language and into a new name and culture. ASPIRE was officially unveiled on June 10, 2025.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Winston-Salem hereby recognize and honor Mr. Kevin Cheshire for his distinguished service, exceptional leadership, and profound contributions to ASPIRE and the City of Winston-Salem.

***Dated this 16th Day of June, 2025***

***J. Allen Joines, Mayor***

***Denise D. Adams, Mayor Pro Tempore***  
***Scott Andree-Bowen***  
***Barbara Hanes Burke***  
***Robert C. Clark***

***Regina Ford Hall***  
***Vivián V. Joiner***  
***Annette Scippio***  
***James Taylor, Jr.***