



City of Winston-Salem
North Carolina
27102

COUNCIL MEMBER
SOUTH WARD

Mr. William Royston
Recreation and Parks Director
City of Winston-Salem
Post Office Box 2511
Winston-Salem, NC 27102

Dear Mr. William Royston,

Please accept this letter as recommendation to the Recreation and Parks Commission to name the community garden which will be planted on the property of the Carl H. Russell Recreation Center after Earline Parmon.

Mrs. Parmon was a longtime advocate for the Northeast Ward and the City of Winston-Salem as a whole. She was the first black senator to represent Forsyth County. She was elected to represent N.C. Senate District 32 in 2012. She had previously served five terms representing District 72 in the N.C. House and spent 12 years as a Forsyth County commissioner.

Mrs. Parmon was an outspoken crusader for her constituents, including funding for education. She was a champion for the disadvantaged. Her devotion to education and community was embodied in a scholarship fund she established in 2008 as a way to inspire young people to complete their college education, the nonprofit served as a catalyst for affecting change throughout the communities she served.

During her time in the General Assembly, Mrs. Parmon championed a number of bills, including payments for victims of the state's eugenics program and the Racial Justice Act, which allowed defendants on death row to challenge their sentences if they could prove that race was a significant factor in decisions to seek or impose the death penalty at the time of their trials. Her legacy also includes get out to vote efforts among city residents.

Mrs. Parmon spent her life being of help and hope to our community. I humbly request that you will favorably consider this plea to name the community garden in her esteemed honor.

Respectfully,

John C. Larson
Council Member, South Ward