

Whereas, A class action suit has been brought in the United States District Court, for the Eastern District of New York by descendants of slaves, seeking restitution for the atrocities of slavery and the cruel aftermath it has engendered; and
Whereas, The Plaintiffs in this brave and noble class action are represented by Deadria Farmer-Paellmann, Mary Lacey Madison and Andrea Carrington; and
Whereas, The Defendants in the action are corporate entities that have allegedly used and/or profited from slave labor and have retained the benefits and use of those profits and products derived from that slave labor; and
Whereas, Defendant corporations allegedly knew that the plaintiff class was subject to physical and mental abuse and inhumane treatment; and
Whereas, FleetBoston, a named defendant in the lawsuit, is alleged to have financed some of the business of slave trading; and
Whereas, CSX, another named defendant, is alleged to have operated numerous railroad lines that were constructed or run by slave labor; and
Whereas, AETNA Inc., also named in the lawsuit, is alleged to have insured slave owners against the loss of their human chattel; and
Whereas, There are alleged to be many other corporations that have participated in and profited from slavery; and
Whereas, The United Nations has pronounced the Trans-Atlantic slave trade to be a crime against humanity; and
Whereas, A crime has been committed, a people have been injured by this crime, and compensation for these injuries are due; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, That the City Council declares its support for plaintiffs Deadria Farmer-Paellmann, Mary Lacey Madison, Andrea Carrington and all others similarly situated, in their efforts to seek restitution in a federal class action suit brought against the corporations that are alleged to have participated in and directly profited from the abhorrent institution of slavery.

[10]3