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By:  Toth H.R. No. 638

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Robert Heineman of The Woodlands retired from The Howard Hughes Corporation in December 2020, drawing to a close a remarkable career as a planner and architect that has spanned nearly a half century; and

WHEREAS, Born in Lubbock, Robert Heineman had traveled to 46 of the 50 states by the time he graduated from high school, and during his college years, he often drove to the East or West Coast in his 1965 Karmann Ghia; after completing his bachelor's degree in architecture from Rice University, he went on to earn a master's degree in urban design from the Harvard University Graduate School of Design; while still studying at Harvard in 1971, he received a summer internship with a new master-planned community near Houston called The Woodlands; and

WHEREAS, Following his graduation from Harvard in 1972, Mr. Heineman joined The Woodlands project as a full-time employee, working with community founder George Mitchell and the celebrated urban planner Ian McHarg as part of the original design team; The Woodlands was officially opened in 1974, and Mr. Heineman has remained involved with the community ever since; for many years, he has served as vice president of planning and design, playing a leading role in every aspect of the community's development; his original 1972 sketch of a waterway on an 8x10-inch index card was eventually realized as The Woodlands Waterway, which was begun in 1999 and completed in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Even in retirement, Mr. Heineman will remain active with The Woodlands as a member of the town's Development Standards Committee and other committees, and he will continue to participate in The Woodlands Arts Council Art Benches program; he is also an active hobbyist who engages in such pursuits as woodworking and the renovation of vintage structures, cars, and boats; and

WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Heineman enjoys the love and support of his wife, Pamela, and his two daughters; and

WHEREAS, For nearly 50 years, Robert Heineman's skill, expertise, and leadership have greatly benefited the residents of The Woodlands and earned him the respect and admiration of his peers, and he may indeed reflect with pride on his outstanding record of achievement as he embarks upon the next exciting chapter of his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Robert Heineman on his retirement from his successful career as an architect and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Heineman as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.