

**RESOLUTION 23-40: -A TRIBUTE TO FORMER DELAWARE LEGAL COUNSEL
O. FRANCIS BIONDI AND DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO HIS FAMILY**

The Executive Director Presented the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, O. Francis Biondi served with diligence, enthusiasm, and integrity as the Delaware Legal Counsel to the Delaware River and Bay Authority from 1974 to 2001; and

WHEREAS, using his legal expertise and political acumen, Mr. Biondi was instrumental in the adoption of the historic 1990 Compact Amendments, permitting the Delaware River and Bay Authority to participate in economic development activities in the southern four counties of New Jersey and the three counties of Delaware; and

WHEREAS, as Delaware Legal Counsel for nearly thirty years, Mr. Biondi reviewed and modified thousands of professional service and construction contracts to ensure the Authority's interests were safeguarded; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Biondi's lifelong interest in politics led to his rapid ascent as a trusted political advisor, culminating in him serving as a key advisor to Delaware governors of both political parties including Democrat Sherman W. Tribbitt and Republican Pierre S. du Pont IV; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, after drafting the Financial Center Development Act, Mr. Biondi testified for eight hours in the Delaware legislature and the act was signed into law, which ultimately brought 35 credit card banks to Delaware and created about 40 thousand jobs for Delawareans; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Biondi gave back to his community by offering thousands of hours of pro bono legal counsel for St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church and its affiliated organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of the Delaware River and Bay Authority, its staff and all employees are grieving the passing of our esteemed friend, Mr. O. Francis Biondi, on May 30, 2023; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Delaware River and Bay Authority does hereby recognize and value Mr. Biondi's innovative, remarkable, and important contributions to the bi-state agency, the state of Delaware and his local community in Wilmington; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Delaware River and Bay Authority extends its deepest sympathies and condolences to the family of Mr. O. Francis Biondi, especially for his wife Anita, and does hereby record our collective appreciation for the opportunity to know, respect, and love him by the presentation of this Resolution, adopted today, July 18, 2023.