

JOSEPH M. DELFINO

Joseph M. Delfino, Class of 1950, is capping 30 years of distinguished public service as he completes his third term as Mayor of White Plains, during which time he has led a renaissance that has transformed and energized the City and attracted both national and international recognition.

Mayor Delfino is a lifelong White Plains resident who started in the White Plains schools at the old Ferris Avenue Elementary School. He went on to graduate from Westchester Community College. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, in 1956, he joined General Foods, later moving to Richardson Vicks, Inc. in sales administration.

Always active in a variety of community and service organizations, Mayor Delfino was elected to the White Plains Common Council in 1979. During his 10-year tenure he held a variety of leadership positions, including Council President. In 1989, he was elected to the Westchester County Board of Legislators representing White Plains, where he served on key committees and as Vice-Chairman of the Board.

Since being elected Mayor in 1997, he has conceived and spearheaded the revitalization that attracted \$3 billion in private development, creating a vibrant downtown with multiple new shopping and entertainment venues and thousands of new residential units.

The Mayor established the City's first Open-Space initiative which has led to the acquisition of 53 acres of open space and a new multi-use waterfront park on Silver Lake. In addition, he was one of the first signatories of the U.S. Conference of Mayors' Climate Control Agreement, which instituted local energy saving practices.

More than physical enhancement of the city's downtown, Mayor Delfino's career has been distinguished by his encyclopedic knowledge of White Plains and his personal relations with thousands of residents. He tirelessly attends civic, community and neighborhood activities and has been a loyal supporter of White Plains Public Schools.

He has served as President of the New York State Conference of Mayors and received numerous awards including an honorary degree from Pace University.

Mayor Delfino and his wife, Eli, married for 57 years, have two children.