

Biography for Councilor Sheila Tyson



The Birmingham native is a Birmingham City Councilor for District Six, business accountant, former president of the West End community and the Birmingham Citizens Advisory Board. Tyson studied business accounting at the Quartermaster School operated by the U.S. Army. She was elected vice president of the Arlington-West End neighborhood in 2006 and became president of the West End Community in 2008. Tyson is one of the former presidents of the Citizens Advisory Board, which includes 99 neighborhoods.

District Six has seen expansion and growth during her term and she believes there is still more she can do. Some of her accomplishments include:

- *Demolition of vacant homes and abandoned buildings including the demolition and redevelopments for Larkway Gardens, Montevallo Gardens, Elyton and many more abandoned apartment buildings and homes.
- *Created the Land banking program in Birmingham
- *Joint Partnership on a new home ownership program.
- *Partnered with ALDOT on a grant to pave the truck route in District 6
- *Started a food and home remodeling program for veterans at the DAV on sixth Avenue
- *Helped get a Bike and walking trail in West End
- *Started Sister strut with Sheila for healthy initiative and donated new exercise equipment to recreation centers in District 6.
- *Started Block watch programs in several neighborhoods
- *Provides financial support to the libraries and schools in District 6
- *Started Eat Smart program for Seniors
- *Advocated for Cahaba Health center
- *Advocated for Publix grocery store
- *Partnered with union on the minimum wage increase for workers
- * Partnered with the Joe Rush Program with Urban Ministry painting houses in District 6.

Moving forward Tyson hopes to turn Elyton school into a senior citizen assistant living facility. Redevelop Larkway Gardens into a gated senior citizen living community.

She has received numerous awards during her years of service. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Keeper of the Dream award, NAACP, and the SCLC award. Other awards bestowed on Ms. Tyson include the Martin Parents Against Violence Award, Metro Birmingham Women's History Award, Metro Birmingham Branch NAACP 2012 Believers Award, First Responders Award, Birmingham Police Department Community Award, Voting Rights and Social Justice Roundtable from the National Black

Women Roundtable, and Woman of the Year Award from NAACP for the state of Alabama, Outstanding Community Service award, Odessa Woolfolk Community Service, Stars Fell on Alabama, Black Women's Roundtable Phenomenal Award, Alla Elite Person Award, NAACP Outstanding Community Service

Glen Iris Elementary School - Recognition for her outstanding community support, Booker T. Washington School, Recognition for outstanding community support, Brenda Brown Bosom Buddies – Dedication, Award for Neighborhood Elective, City of Birmingham Proclamation for A night out on Crime, Census Bureau for 2010 partnership, and Certificate of Appreciation for Arlington West End and West End Communities. Her participation in several year long conferences like Alabama Grassroots Leadership Development and National Organization of Black Elected Legislative women enabled her to become a more effective leader, allows her to create relationships with other women in politics, help other women rise to leadership roles and most importantly enhance the lives around her community. She has also attended many other workshops including Tandeka's program on childhood obesity prevention. Tyson is also a member of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, Neighborhood USA, Birmingham Board of Education Executive Committee, UAB Minority Health & Health Disparities Research, a lifetime AIDS and HIV advocate, a part of nine PTA's, started a nonprofit called Building Healthy Communities. In July 2017, she was selected to travel to Kenya and empower women in politics abroad.