

1 Introduced by Council Member Clark-Murray and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Johnson and Lahnen:

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5 **ORDINANCE 2024-556-E**

6 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING CHAPTER 745 (ADDRESSING
7 AND STREET NAMING REGULATIONS), *ORDINANCE CODE*;
8 ESTABLISHING AN HONORARY STREET DESIGNATION AND
9 ASSOCIATED ROADWAY MARKERS FOR ERMA LEE COLE;
10 ESTABLISHING AN HONORARY STREET DESIGNATION ON
11 BROADWAY AVENUE EXTENDING BETWEEN BAKER AVENUE
12 AND ROBINSON AVENUE IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 9 FOR
13 ERMA LEE COLE; PROVIDING FOR THE INSTALLATION OF
14 TWO HONORARY ROADWAY MARKERS TO BE LOCATED IN
15 APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS ON THE DESIGNATED ROAD IN
16 COUNCIL DISTRICT 9; WAIVING THE REQUIREMENT OF
17 SUBSECTION 745.105 (I) (2), *ORDINANCE CODE*, THAT
18 THE HONOREE BE DECEASED FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS;
19 DIRECTING THE LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIVISION TO
20 FORWARD THIS ORDINANCE TO THE PLANNING AND
21 DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, ADDRESSING DIVISION FOR
22 PROCESSING, IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION
23 WITH THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, TRAFFIC
24 ENGINEERING AND OTHER AFFECTED AGENCIES AND
25 ORGANIZATIONS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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27 **WHEREAS**, Erma Lee Cole, having lived in the same home in
28 Jacksonville since her birth, passed away in 2023; and

29 **WHEREAS**, Erma Lee Cole was a proud graduate of Old Stanton
30 High School and the former Beaumont School of Nursing; and

31 **WHEREAS**, Ms. Cole volunteered, without end, in the

1 Jacksonville community namely being the catalyst for construction of
2 an overpass at the Coastline Railroad which intersects Broadway Avenue
3 and McQuade Street; and

4 **WHEREAS,** the overpass was extremely important in the community
5 because it provided a safe route for children walking to and from
6 school; and

7 **WHEREAS,** in the early 1970's, Erma Lee Cole help create "Health
8 Happening" programs which provided free medical services to thousands
9 of residents in the community; and

10 **WHEREAS,** the "Health Happening" medical programs provided eye
11 screening, tuberculosis screening, blood pressure and diabetes
12 testing; and

13 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Erma Lee Cole was steadfast in obtaining a grant
14 in 1998 which assisted with applying new paint to the homes of elderly
15 homeowners; and

16 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Cole also provided transportation to residents
17 for medical appointments, Social Security, community cleanups and
18 "National Night Out"; and

19 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Cole ensured the safety of the community by
20 requesting the installation of 120 streetlights in Jacksonville which
21 also included vision meetings; and

22 **WHEREAS,** Ms. Cole received several awards: 1999 Mayor's Senior
23 Lifetime Achievement Award, 1998 Good Neighbor Award, 1998 Volunteer
24 of the Year Award from the Boys and Girls Club and the 1999 Brighten
25 Our Neighborhood award; and

26 **WHEREAS,** Erma Lee Cole also volunteered as a member of numerous
27 civic organizations including the President of the Robinson's
28 Addition Neighborhood Association, Block Captain, Legal Aid,
29 Neighborhood Leadership Council, Greater Jacksonville Economic
30 Organization, Council on Elder Affairs, Northwest CPAC, Sheriff's
31 Advisory Council, Women's Health Initiative, Jacksonville Housing

1 Partnership, National Welfare Rights Organization and the Weed and
2 Seed program; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Erma Lee Cole was active in her church, Ephesus
4 Seventh Day Adventist Church. There, she held several office
5 positions, served on the Missing Members Committee, Home and Leader,
6 Assistant to the Women's Ministry Leader, New Sanctuary Choir, True
7 'N' Hearts Club and the Jaye Chalameers musical group; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Ms. Cole donated several computers to Ephesus Junior
9 Academy computer lab in memory of her deceased son. She also donated
10 microphones for the church choir; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the applicant submitted an Application and the
12 required fee for the honorary marker. A copy of the application and
13 the payment invoice are attached, respectively, as **Exhibits 1 and 2**;
14 and

15 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 745.105 (j) (10), *Ordinance Code*,
16 the Planning and Development Department mailed written notifications
17 on April 15, 2024, and on May 15, 2024, to nineteen (19) affected
18 property owners requesting their written consent or objection to the
19 proposed honorary street designation. A copy of the first and second
20 written notifications and a complete listing of the 19 total affected
21 addresses are attached, respectively, as **Exhibits 3, 4 and 5**; and

22 **WHEREAS**, one (1) property owner returned the form as blank. A
23 copy of the blank form is attached as **Exhibit 6**; and

24 **WHEREAS**, three (3) mailings were "returned to sender." A copy
25 of the "returned to sender" forms are attached as **Exhibit 7**; and

26 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 745.105 (j) (10), *Ordinance Code*,
27 the remaining 15 affected property owners are deemed to have consented
28 to the proposed honorary designations due to their non-response to
29 the written notifications; now therefore

30 **BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

31 **Section 1. Broadway Avenue to Receive an Honorary Street**

1 **designation for "Erma Lee Cole."** Broadway Avenue extending from
2 Baker Avenue to Robinson Avenue in Council District 9, is hereby
3 designated as contemplated by Section 745.105, *Ordinance Code*, for
4 "Erma Lee Cole." A map of the road designation is attached hereto as
5 **Exhibit 8.**

6 **Section 2. Honorary Roadside Markers for "Erma Lee Cole" to**
7 **be installed.** Two honorary roadside markers, as contemplated by
8 Section 745.105, *Ordinance Code*, recognizing "Erma Lee Cole" shall
9 be placed in appropriate locations on Broadway Avenue.

10 **Section 3. Waiver of Subsection 745.105(i)(2), Ordinance**
11 **Code.** Subsection 745.105(i)(2), *Ordinance Code*, requiring that the
12 honoree be deceased for at least five years is hereby waived because
13 the Council desires to recognize the extensive accomplishments and
14 contributions that Erma Lee Cole made to the City of Jacksonville and
15 within a more timely manner after her passing.

16 **Section 4. Directing Legislative Services Division to**
17 **Forward a Copy to the Planning and Development Department.** The Chief
18 of Legislative Services is requested to send a copy of this
19 legislation, once enacted, to the Planning and Development
20 Department, Addressing Unit, for processing, implementation, and
21 coordination with the Public Works Department, Traffic Engineering
22 Division, the applicant and other affected agencies and
23 organizations.

24 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
25 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
26 without the Mayor's signature.

1 Form Approved:

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3 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Cherry S. Pollock

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