

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



Brandon Russell
Research Assistant
(904) 255-5137
BRussell@coj.net

117 West Duval Street
City Hall, Suite 425
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2025-0782

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Members Johnson and Peluso

Date of Introduction: October 14, 2025

Committee(s) of Reference: NCSPHS, R, TEU

Date of Analysis: October 14, 2025

Type of Action: Re-name a city building; waive the timeline established in Section 122.105, *Ordinance Code*; re-name a roadway; direct Legislative Services Division to forward enacted Ordinance.

Bill Summary: This ordinance honors the legacy and brave service of Firefighter Henry Bradley to the City by naming the city-owned building located at 12 Catherine Street, in Council District 7, to be known as the “Henry Bradley Firefighters Museum,” pursuant to Section 122.105, *Ordinance Code*. The bill also waives the timeline established in Section 122.105, *Ordinance Code*, pertaining to the report and recommendation from the Historic Preservation Section of the Community Planning Division of the Planning and Development Department and the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission for naming city-owned buildings.

The bill also renames a roadway currently identified as “Catherine Street” located in Council District 7 pursuant to Section 745.105, *Ordinance Code*. The bill directs the Legislative Services Division to forward the enacted ordinance to the Public Works Department, Development Services and Traffic Engineering Divisions, for processing, implementation, and coordination with 911 Emergency, the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department, the US Postal Service, and other affected agencies and organizations pertaining to the road renaming.

Background Information: Henry Bradley worked as a volunteer firefighter in the 1800s until December 16, 1885, when he perished while battling a fierce fire during which a wall collapsed on him. He was the first firefighter to perish in the line of duty. Despite his sacrifice, Mr. Bradley was initially buried in the segregated black section of the City’s cemetery in an unmarked grave. More than a century later, in 2023, a headstone bearing Henry Bradley’s name was placed at the Old City Cemetery.

As a result of Mr. Bradley’s demise, the City government created a Jacksonville Fire Department staffed and operated by professionally paid firefighters. His memory was also honored with a plaque at the Fallen Firefighter Memorial at Fire Station No. 1 on Liberty Street. The purpose of this bill is to honor Henry Bradley’s significant sacrifice for, and contributions to, the City by renaming the aforementioned building and roadway. The provisions of Section 122.105, *Ordinance Code*, have been met, the public hearings have been held, and the Planning and Development Department and Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission (JHPC) have submitted a report and advisory recommendation to the City Council, respectively; both recommend approval of the proposed naming of the City-owned building to the “Henry Bradley Firefighters Museum.”

Likewise, the Public Works Department, Development Services Division, issued a staff recommendation to approve the renaming of “Catherine Street” to “Henry Bradley Place.” The 911 Emergency Addressing Advisory Committee voted to accept the staff recommendation, along with the Historic Preservation Section of the Community Planning Division of the Planning and Development Department and JHPC.

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



Brandon Russell
Research Assistant
(904) 255-5137
BRussell@coj.net

117 West Duval Street
City Hall, Suite 425
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Policy Impact Area: Road and building renaming

Fiscal Impact: No direct cost to the City.

Analyst: Russell