

1 Introduced by Council Member Newby:  
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4 **ORDINANCE 2019-439**

5 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING CHAPTER 745 (ADDRESSING  
6 AND STREET NAMING REGULATIONS) *ORDINANCE CODE*;  
7 TO CLARIFY THAT THE CORRECT SPELLING OF  
8 "SPELLMAN ROAD" IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 8  
9 EXTENDING FROM BENEDICT ROAD ON THE NORTH TO  
10 WEST 45<sup>TH</sup> STREET TO THE SOUTH SHOULD INCLUDE A  
11 SINGLE "L"; WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
12 SECTION 745.105 (D), *ORDINANCE CODE*,  
13 PERTAINING TO THE REVIEW BY THE 911 EMERGENCY  
14 ADDRESSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE; PROVIDING A  
15 COMPLIANCE TIME PERIOD TO REQUIRE THAT ALL  
16 CITIZENS, PROPERTY OWNERS, BUSINESS OWNERS AND  
17 GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES UTILIZE THE CORRECT  
18 SPELLING OF "SPELMAN ROAD" WITH A SINGLE "L"  
19 ON ANY AND ALL OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS, RESIDENCE  
20 ADDRESSES, STREET SIGNS, HIGHWAY MARKERS AND  
21 ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ON OR BEFORE  
22 DECEMBER 31, 2020; DIRECTING THE LEGISLATIVE  
23 SERVICES DIVISION TO FORWARD THIS ORDINANCE TO  
24 THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND  
25 THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING AN  
26 EFFECTIVE DATE.

27  
28 **WHEREAS**, there exists several Jacksonville streets in the  
29 Royal Terrace neighborhood that are named in honor of nationally  
30 known Historically Black Colleges and Universities in America which  
31 are commonly referred to as "HBCUs"; and

1           **WHEREAS**, such streets are named in honor of Wilberforce  
2 University located in Wilberforce, Ohio, Benedict College located  
3 in Columbia, South Carolina, Xavier College located in New Orleans,  
4 Louisiana, Tuskegee University in Alabama, Meharry College in  
5 Tennessee and Spelman College located in Atlanta, Georgia as well  
6 as many others HBCUs; and

7           **WHEREAS**, historic documents reveal that "Wilberforce Road" was  
8 previously "Harvard Road," "Benedict Road" was previously  
9 "Cambridge Road," "Spelman Road" was "Dixie Road" and "Xavier Road"  
10 was previously named "Oxford Road"; and

11           **WHEREAS**, such documents included a Resolution adopted by the  
12 Board of County Commissioners of Duval County, Florida wherein the  
13 Duval Commissioners changed the name of "Dixie Road" to the new  
14 street name of "Spelman Road" using a double "L"; (A copy of the  
15 Resolution is attached as **Exhibit 1**); and

16           **WHEREAS**, a review of public resources reveals that Spelman  
17 College is spelled with a single "L." Such vital information was  
18 verified by a Spelman alumna who is a resident of Jacksonville, and  
19 a local attorney; and

20           **WHEREAS**, notably, Dr. Johnnetta Betsch Cole, a Jacksonville  
21 native and the granddaughter of Abraham Lincoln Lewis, was  
22 appointed the first black female President of Spelman College in  
23 1987; and

24           **WHEREAS**, the misspelling of "Spelman Road" in the 1952 Duval  
25 County Resolution has, inadvertently, caused numerous  
26 inconsistencies and confusion about the correct spelling of  
27 "Spelman Road"; and

28           **WHEREAS**, the Council seeks to clarify that the correct  
29 spelling of "Spelman Road" should include a single "L"; and

30           **WHEREAS**, on May 22, 2019, the Jacksonville Historic  
31 Preservation Commission ("JHPC") voted to adopt the Staff Report

1 with a recommendation for approval to correct the spelling of  
2 "Spelman Road" with a single "L". A copy of the JHPC agenda, Staff  
3 Report, and the excerpt minutes of the May 22, 2019, public meeting  
4 of the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission are attached  
5 hereto as **Exhibit 2**; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the Council finds it appropriate to clarify the  
7 correct spelling of "Spelman Road" extending from Benedict Road on  
8 the north to West 45<sup>th</sup> Street on the south with a single "L"; and

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

10 **Section 1. Spelman Road Correct Spelling Clarified.** The  
11 correct spelling of the name of Spelman Road, extending from  
12 Benedict Road on the north to the West 45<sup>th</sup> Street on the south, is  
13 hereby clarified by use of a single "L" by which name such street  
14 shall be hereafter known and designated. A copy of the map of  
15 Spelman Road is attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**.

16 **Section 2. Waiver of Review by the 911 Emergency**  
17 **Addressing Advisory Committee.** Section 745.105(d), Ordinance Code,  
18 requiring review of all street name changes by the 911 Emergency  
19 Addressing Advisory Committee is hereby waived as the Ordinance is  
20 not changing the street name, but instead clarifies the correct  
21 spelling of "Spelman Road".

22 **Section 3. Compliance Time Period to Occur on or before**  
23 **December 31, 2020.** All citizens, property owners, business owners  
24 and governmental entities shall utilize the correct spelling of  
25 "Spelman Road" with a single "L" on any and all official documents,  
26 residence addresses, street signs, highway markers and electronic  
27 communication on or before December 31, 2020.

28 **Section 4. Legislative Services Division directed to**  
29 **forward a copy to the Planning and Development Department and the**  
30 **Public Works Department.** The Chief of Legislative Services is  
31 directed to send a copy of this legislation once enacted to the

1 Planning and Development Department, Addressing Unit, and the  
2 Public Works Department for processing, implementation, and  
3 coordination with 911 Emergency, Fire and Rescue Department, the  
4 U.S. Postal Service, Google and other affected agencies and  
5 organizations.

6 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become  
7 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
8 without the Mayor's signature.

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10 Form Approved:

11

12 /s/Cherry Shaw Pollock

13 Office of General Counsel

14 Legislation Prepared By: Cherry Shaw Pollock

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