



Planning and Development Department

Ed Ball Building
214 North Hogan Street, Suite 300
Jacksonville, FL 32202

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members
Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Arimus Wells, City Planner Supervisor
Community Planning Division – Historic Preservation Section

RE: Portion of Gator Bowl Boulevard to East Bay Street - Road Renaming
(Revised)

DATE: October 26, 2022

Consistent with Chapter 745 of the Jacksonville Ordinance Code on addressing and street naming regulations, requests to rename streets require a review and recommendation from the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission. In making a report and recommendation, the Commission shall address the following criteria:

1. The origin of the street name
2. Any historical significance of the existing street name
3. Whether there are any historical structures or landmarks on the subject street
4. Whether the existing name is part of a common theme of street names throughout the community where such street is located
5. The age of the street name
6. Whether the street name is a duplicate street name

Current Street Name: Gator Bowl Boulevard

Proposed Street Name: East Bay Street

Reason for Change:

The request for the name change is to provide consistency with the existing downtown naming convention and build anticipation for the planned Bay Street corridor improvements. The change would rename the portion of Gator Bowl Boulevard between

A. Philip Randolph Boulevard (where Gator Bowl Blvd turns into East Bay St) to Commodore Point Expressway (which begins at the base of the Hart Bridge).

Analysis:

The origin of Bay Street could not be determined by Staff. Historian, T. Frederick Davis, speculated that the naming of Bay Street may have been influenced by the “corner tree on the river bank at the foot of Market Street”, which was used as the starting point for the first survey of Jacksonville. This area was allegedly referred to as “fine old bay.”

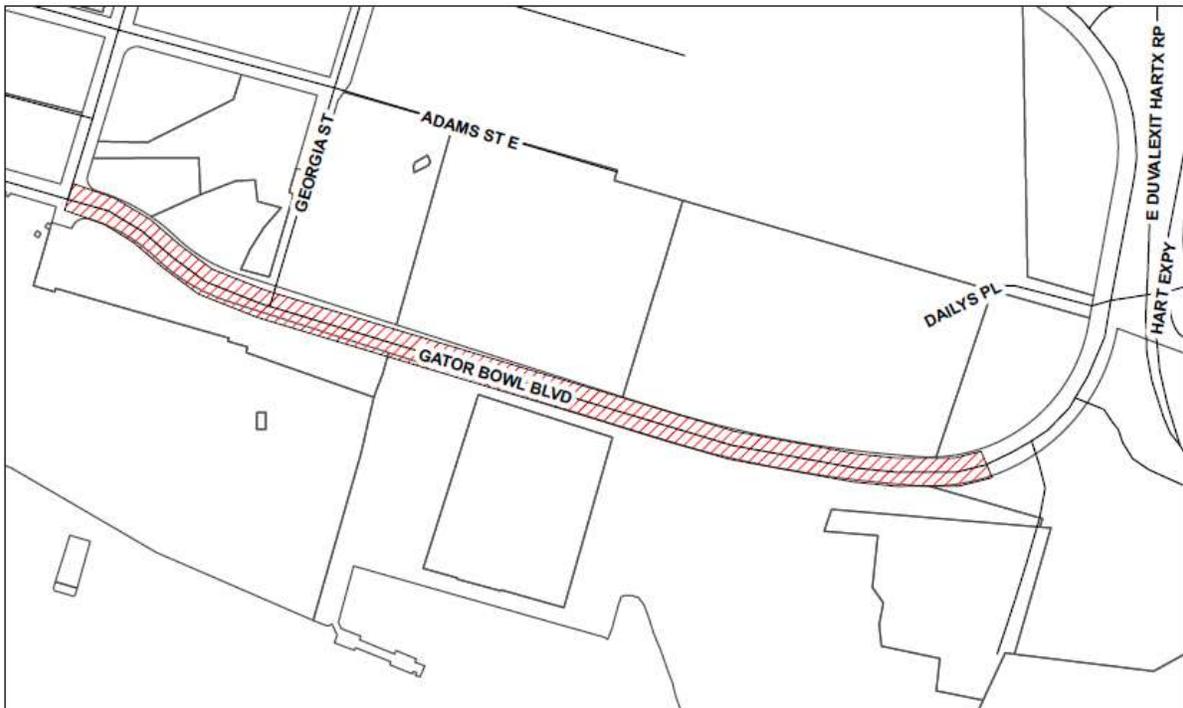
Prior to being named Gator Bowl Boulevard, the subject street was originally named as Bay Street (easterly extension) and Haines Street (southerly extension). According to Ordinance 1995-1243, both streets were renamed to Gator Bowl Boulevard in order to commemorate the over fifty years of historical significance of the name, “Gator Bowl” in the City of Jacksonville.

The Catherine Street Fire Station, located at 1410 Gator Bowl Boulevard, has been identified as a historic structure located along the subject street. The fire station has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1972. However, in March 2022, the station was relocated westward along Bay Street in order to be closer to the planned riverfront redevelopment. As such, no historic structures or landmarks presently exist along the subject street.

Recommendation:

Based on the best evidence available, the Planning and Development Department has no objection to the proposed street name change from Gator Bowl Boulevard to East Bay Street.

Revised Location Maps:





Planning and Development Department

Ed Ball Building
214 North Hogan Street, Suite 300
Jacksonville, FL 32202

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members
911 Emergency Addressing Advisory Committee

FROM: Arimus Wells, City Planner Supervisor
Community Planning Division / Historic Preservation Section

RE: Portion of Gator Bowl Boulevard to East Bay Street - Road Renaming
(Revised)

DATE: October 26, 2022

Consistent with Chapter 745 of the Jacksonville Ordinance Code on addressing and street naming regulations, requests to rename streets require a review and recommendation from the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission. In making a report and recommendation, the Commission shall address the following criteria:

1. The origin of the street name
2. Any historical significance of the existing street name
3. Whether there are any historical structures or landmarks on the subject street
4. Whether the existing name is part of a common theme of street names throughout the community where such street is located
5. The age of the street name
6. Whether the street name is a duplicate street name

Current Street Name: Gator Bowl Boulevard

Proposed Street Name: East Bay Street

Reason for Change:

The request for the name change is to provide consistency with the existing downtown naming convention and build anticipation for the planned Bay Street corridor improvements. The change would rename the portion of Gator Bowl Boulevard between

A. Philip Randolph Boulevard (where Gator Bowl Blvd turns into East Bay St) to Commodore Point Expressway (which begins at the base of the Hart Bridge).

Analysis:

The origin of Bay Street could not be determined by Staff. Historian, T. Frederick Davis, speculated that the naming of Bay Street may have been influenced by the “corner tree on the river bank at the foot of Market Street”, which was used as the starting point for the first survey of Jacksonville. This area was allegedly referred to as “fine old bay.”

Prior to being named Gator Bowl Boulevard, the subject street was originally named as Bay Street (easterly extension) and Haines Street (southerly extension). According to Ordinance 1995-1243, both streets were renamed to Gator Bowl Boulevard in order to commemorate the over fifty years of historical significance of the name, “Gator Bowl” in the City of Jacksonville.

The Catherine Street Fire Station, located at 1410 Gator Bowl Boulevard, has been identified as a historic structure located along the subject street. The fire station has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1972. However, in March 2022, the station was relocated westward along Bay Street in order to be closer to the planned riverfront redevelopment. As such, no historic structures or landmarks presently exist along the subject street.

Recommendation:

At the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission (JHPC) on October 26, 2022, the Planning and Development Department recommended that the proposed street name change from Gator Bowl Boulevard to East Bay Street be approved by the Commission based on the best evidence available. **JHPC voted 4-0 to approve the name change.**

Revised Location Maps:

