

1 Introduced by Council Member Clark-Murray:  
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4 **ORDINANCE 2024-556**

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

25  
26 **WHEREAS**, Erma Lee Cole, having lived in the same home in  
27 Jacksonville since her birth, passed away in 2023; and

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

30 **WHEREAS**, Ms. Cole volunteered, without end, in the Jacksonville  
31 community namely being the catalyst for construction of an overpass

1 at the Coastline Railroad which intersects Broadway and McQuade  
2 Streets; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 Seed program; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 745.105 (j)(10), Ord. Code, the  
25 remaining 15 affected property owners are deemed to have consented  
26 to the proposed honorary designations due to their non-response to  
27 the written notifications; and

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

29 **Section 1. Broadway Avenue to receive an honorary street**  
30 **designation for "Erma Lee Cole"** extending from Baker Avenue to  
31 Robinson Avenue in Council District 9, is hereby designated as

1 contemplated by Section 745.105, Ordinance Code, for "Erma Lee Cole"  
2 A map of the road designation is attached hereto as **Exhibit 8**.

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

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

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

21 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall  
22 become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming  
23 effective without the Mayor's signature.

24 Form Approved:

25  
26 /c/Cherry Shaw Pollock

27 Office of General Counsel

28 Legislation Prepared by: Cherry S. Pollock

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