

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2024-556

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member Clark-Murray

Date of Introduction: July 23, 2024

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

Date of Analysis: July 25, 2024

Type of Action: Establishing an honorary street designation; providing for the installation of honorary roadway markers; waiving a section of the Ordinance Code; directing the Legislative Services Division to forward this Ordinance to relevant parties for implementation

Bill Summary: This bill establishes an honorary street designation for Broadway Avenue, extending from Baker Avenue and Robinson Avenue, in Council District 9, recognizing Erma Lee Cole, a civically engaged member of her community who recently passed away. It provides for the installation of two honorary roadside markers, as contemplated by Section 745.105, Ordinance Code, and it waives Section 745.102(i)(2), Ordinance Code, which requires that the honoree of an honorary street designation be deceased for at least five years. It directs the Legislative Services Division to send a copy of this legislation, once enacted, to the Planning and Development Department, Addressing Unit, for processing, implementation, and coordination with the Public Works Department, Traffic Engineering Division, the applicant, and all other affected agencies and organizations.

Background Information: Erma Lee Cole was a Jacksonville native who graduated from Old Stanton High School and the former Beaumont School of Nursing and lived in her Jacksonville home from her birth to her passing. She has been engaged in the public process to better her community through her civic engagement. She was the catalyst for the construction of an overpass at the Coastline Railroad which intersects Broadway and McQuade Streets, which provided a safe route for children walking to and from school; she helped to create the "Health Happening" programs, which provided free eye screenings, tuberculosis screenings, blood pressure testing, and diabetes testing, in the early 1970s; she helped to obtain a grant in 1998 that assisted with applying new paint to the homes of elderly homeowners; she requested the installation of 120 streetlights in Jacksonville and provided transportation to residents to medical appointments, Social Security appointments, and community cleanups. Ms. Cole recently passed in 2023.

This bill waives the requirement that the honoree of an honorary street designation be deceased for at least five years to recognize Ms. Cole's accomplishments and contributions to the community in a more timely manner after her passing. The Planning and Development Department mailed two separate written notifications to 19 affected property owners requesting their consent or objection to the proposed honorary street designation. 1 property owner returned the form as blank, 3 mailings were returned to sender, and the remaining 15 affected property owners are deemed to have consented to the proposed honorary designations due to their non-response.

Policy Impact Area: Honorary street designation

Fiscal Impact: Minimal for signage

Analyst: Webb