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To: Honorable City Council
From: David Whitaker, Director, Legislative Policy Division 
Janese Chapman, Director, Historic Designation Advisory Board
CC: Kelsey Maas, Preservation Planner, Historic Designation Advisory Board
Date: September 4, 2024
RE: 2024 Secondary Street Sign Applications

The Historic Designation Advisory Board (HDAB) staff has reviewed the documentation submitted by petitioners for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of this documentation, staff has compiled the following report which summarizes each honoree's application and their eligibility. Staff will be available to present this information for the public hearing to be scheduled between September and November and to answer any questions.

Secondary Street Sign Ordinance

Purpose: Per Chapter 43 of the Detroit City Code, a street may be assigned a secondary street sign that displays a different name than the official street name for the purpose of honorary recognition.

Eligibility Criteria:

- The proposed honoree positively reflects or exemplifies the cultural, social, economic, or political history of the City, State, Nation, or World; and
- The proposed honoree was a resident of the City or has been buried or interred in the City for a cumulative time of not less than ten years; and
- The proposed honoree either has been deceased for a period of not less than five years, or is otherwise eligible for an exception to such requirement pursuant to Section 43-3-41(c)(3) of the Detroit City Code; and
- The proposed location of the secondary street sign bears a clear association with a site, building, structure, or event directly related to the proposed honoree.

Exemptions for the death criterion:

- The person is deceased, and
 - a) Held a public office in the federal government;
 - b) Died while performing duty as a police officer, firefighter, or emergency medical services for the City; or
 - c) Served as a member of the United States Armed Forces (including reserves) or died while on active duty in the United States Armed Forces; or
- The person is either alive or deceased; and
 - a) The secondary street sign is requested by a City Council member pursuant to the procedure provided in Section 43-3-61; and
 - b) Separate letters of concurrence from at least three City Council members, including the City Council member who submitted the request, describing the particular circumstances, which justify exempting the proposed honoree from the requirement that an honoree be deceased for a period of not less than five years, are attached to the request when forwarded to the Legislative Policy Division pursuant to Section 43-3-61(b) of this Code in addition to the other attachments required by Section 43-3-61(c) of this Code.

Application Requirements:

- Information pertaining to the proposed honoree, including a biography, honors received, contributions to the Local, State, National, or International community, and other information that is sufficient to accurately assess the satisfaction of the criteria provided in Section 43-4-41 of City Code;
- A letter of concurrence from either the proposed honoree's surviving spouse or living descendants, if any such persons are practically accessible and able to provide such letter of concurrence;
- The proposed location for the installation of the secondary street sign consistent with Section 43-3-42 of this Code, including a map of the area of the proposed location;
- Information that is sufficient to accurately assess the appropriateness of the secondary street sign for the proposed location; and
- Application fee. If the sign is approved by City Council, there is an additional fee to manufacture and install the signs.

Names of the 2024 Proposed Secondary Street Sign Honorees:

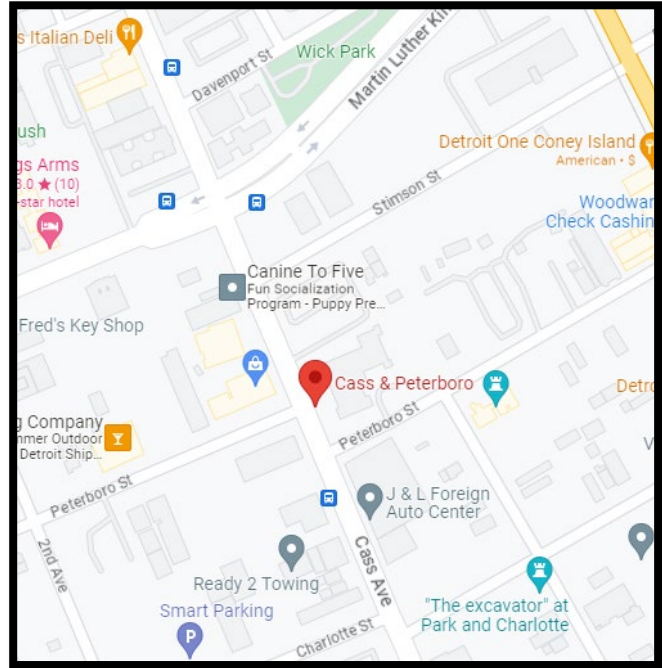
Chin, Vincent (1 of 13)

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Vincent Chin at the intersection of Cass Avenue & Peterboro Street is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

Individual Contributions:

On June 19, 1982, Mr. Chin was murdered in a racially motivated attack by two white auto workers. His assailants never served prison time. Mr. Chin's murder and the judge's light sentence of probation galvanized a coalition of Asian American communities in the Detroit metro and nationally who called for equality, justice, and an end to racial discrimination. A pivotal gathering of over 100 people representing Asian organizations from the region took place on March 31, 1983, at the meeting hall of the Detroit Chinese Welfare Council on Cass Avenue in Detroit's Chinatown. At that meeting, members from over twenty Asian organizations formed a coalition named the American Citizens for Justice (ACJ). According to the National Park Service, "ACJ's grassroots organization turned into a national movement for justice for Vincent Chin. Supporters organized demonstrations and mobilizations in major American cities and new Asian American advocacy groups formed across the nation. Furthermore, the ACJ worked towards building solidarity with different racial and ethnic groups in Detroit, including prominent African American churches, Arab Americans of Michigan, women's groups, Christian and Jewish organizations, and local political leaders" (<https://www.nps.gov/people/vincent-chin.htm>). Detroit's Cass corridor-based Chinatown was the place where activists met in response to Chin's murder, ACJ was formed, and a national human rights campaign was launched in Chin's memory.



Location: Intersection of Cass Avenue & Peterboro Street (District 6)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioners: Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero; Roland Hwang, American Citizens for Justice
- Supporters: Charles Inchaustegui, The Peterboro

The Historic Designation Advisory Board (HDAB) staff has reviewed the petition for **Vincent Chin** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.

Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Deceased 5+ Years
- Buried or interred in Detroit 10+ Years

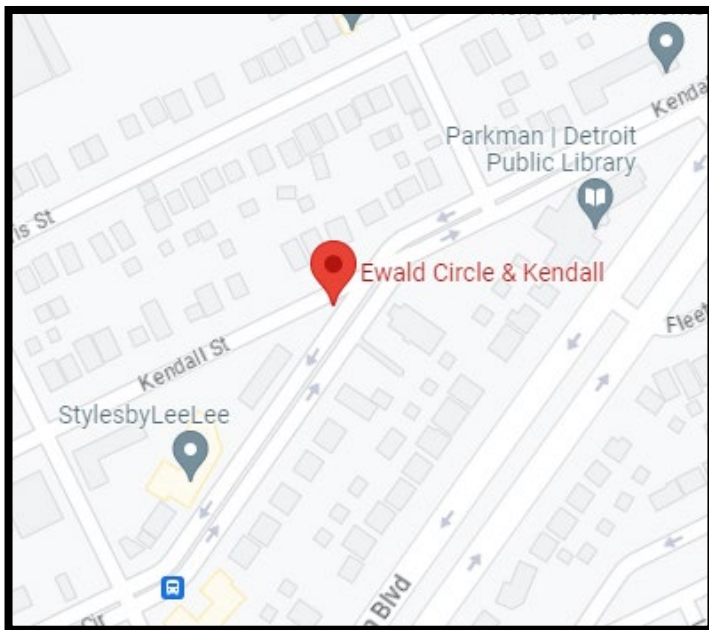
Crews, Sr., Rev. Dr. Clarence L. (2 of 13) | 2023 Rollover Application

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Rev. Dr. Clarence L Crews. Sr. at the intersection of Ewald Circle & Kendall Street is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

Individual Contributions:

Rev. Dr. Clarence L. Crews served for 43 years as pastor of Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church and directly served its surrounding communities. He was a social worker for 27 years and employed as a probation officer with Wayne County and the State of Michigan. Additionally, he worked as a Detroit Police Chaplain with the Detroit Police Department. He was an active member of the Council of Black Pastors of Detroit & Vicinity, serving on the Education Committee and leading the Pastoral Care Committee. He received the Charles Hill Achievement Award from the Michigan Progressive Baptist Convention. He passed away in 2016.



Location: Intersection of Ewald Circle & Kendall Street (District 2)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioner: Bridget Bowie, Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church
- Supporters: Varee Rhode Crews, widow; Tracey Parker, Hopewell member

HDAB staff has reviewed the petition for **Rev. Dr. Clarence L Crews. Sr.** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.

Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Detroit Resident 10+ Years
- Deceased 5+ Years
- Rollover application from 2023 Cycle

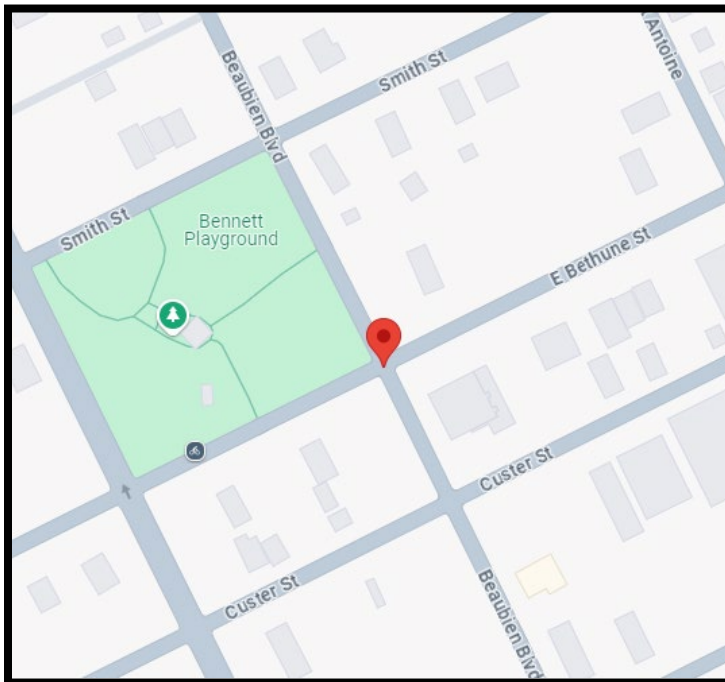
Crutcher, Gabriel Fred (3 of 13)

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Bishop Gabriel Fred Crutcher at the intersection of E. Bethune Street & Beaubien Boulevard is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

Individual Contributions:

Bishop Gabriel Fred Crutcher was born in 1913 in Kentucky, served in World War II, and entered the ministry upon his return to Louisville in 1945. In 1965 he moved to Detroit as full-time pastor of Greater Phillips Temple AOH Church of God, which he had pastored part time from Kentucky beginning in 1962. In 1972 he was consecrated as a Bishop and oversaw churches in Michigan and several other states. He was a teacher and scholar. He trained pastors and helped to open many new churches. He oversaw the construction of the church's current building at 510 E. Bethune, completed in 1996. The proposed sign location is being requested given the honoree's long association as Bishop of Detroit's Greater Phillips Temple, AOH Church of God, where he pastored from 1962 until his death in 2002.



Location: Intersection of E. Bethune Street & Beaubien Boulevard (District 5)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioners: Linda Pouncy; Greater Phillips Temple AOH Church of God
- Supporters: Gabriella Gamble-Dickey, daughter

HDAB staff has reviewed the petition for **Bishop Gabriel Fred Crutcher** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition currently **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.

Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Detroit Resident 10+ Years
- Deceased 5+ Years

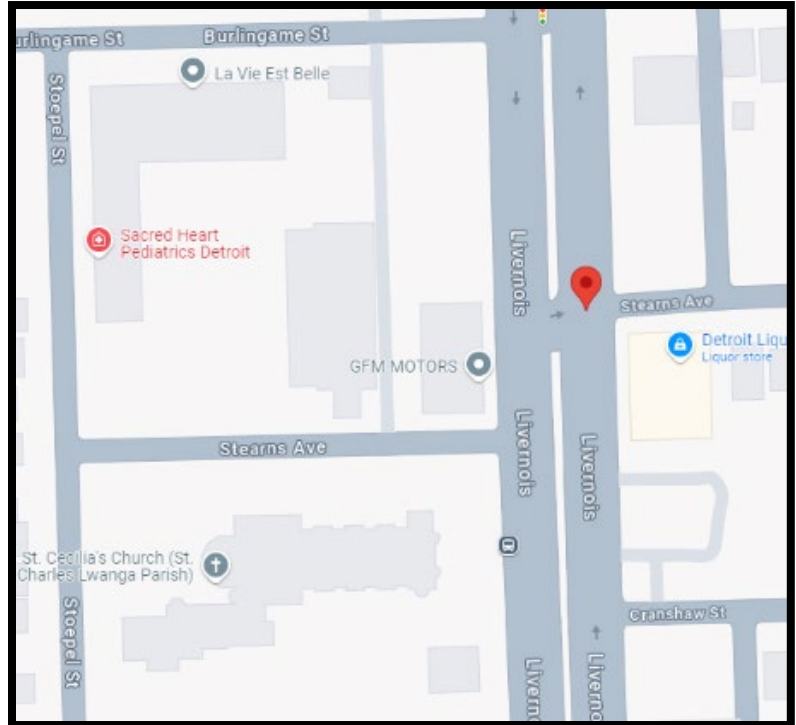
Cureton, Earl (4 of 13)

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Earl Cureton at the intersection of Stearns Avenue & Livernois Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

Individual Contributions:

Earl Cureton was born in Detroit in 1957, raised on the East side and attended Finny High School. He was a successful college basketball player at University of Detroit Mercy and in the NBA, including the Detroit Pistons from 1983-1986. He was inducted in U of D's Titan Hall of Fame in 2007. After retirement from the NBA in 1997, he had a successful career of coaching and broadcasting and in 2013 was hired as a community ambassador for the Detroit Pistons, championing community youth programs and the revitalization of city parks, gyms and recreation centers. Cureton served as a Board Vice-Chair for St. Cecilia's historic gym known as Ceciliaville, located near the proposed street sign location, and advocated for its revitalization and continued use as a safe haven for youth. Cureton passed away in February 2024.



Location: Intersection of Stearns Avenue & Livernois Avenue (District 7)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioner: Council Member Fred Durhal III
- Council Member Letters of Support: Scott Benson, Coleman A. Young II

Note: HDAB received five letters objecting to this proposed honoree and expressed need for an honorary street sign in honor of Sam Washington Sr. instead/or in addition to Earl Cureton

HDAB staff has reviewed the petition for **Earl Cureton** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.

Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Detroit Resident 10+ Years
- Deceased 5+ Years - Mr. Cureton passed 2/4/24
- 3 letters from City Council members for death date exception

Fiddler, Joseph Anthony “Amp” (5 of 13)

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Joseph Anthony “Amp” Fiddler at the intersection of 7 Mile Road & Revere Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

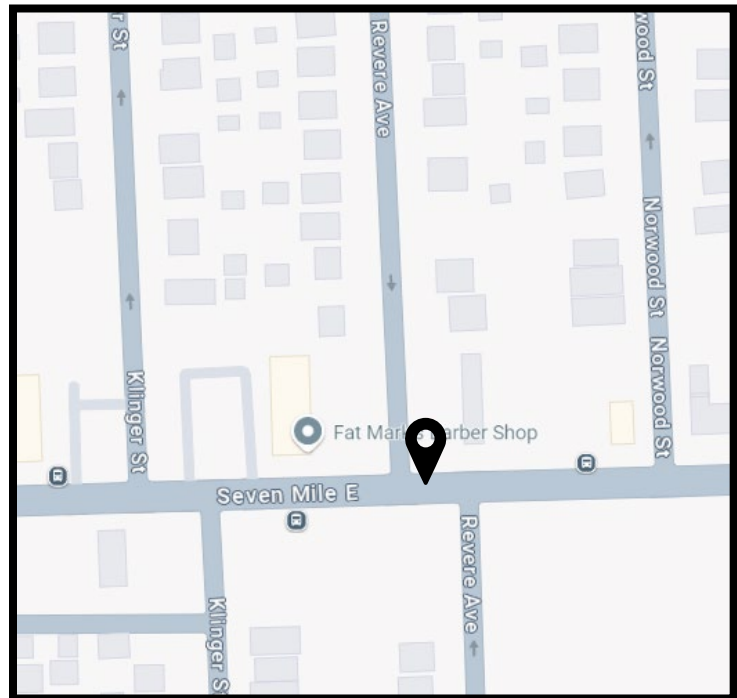
Individual Contributions:

Joseph Anthony “Amp” Fiddler was born in Detroit and was known as a world-renowned, multi-genre (jazz, hip-hop, funk, soul) musician, music producer, writer, dancer and mentor to many musicians. He collaborated with George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic, Prince, Maxwell, Raphael Saadiq, Sly & Robbie, Carl Craig, Moodyman and Will Sessions. He notably mentored another Detroit star J Dilla. Fiddler is credited with nurturing the talents of the young aspiring artists, teaching production skills and making impactful industry introductions. Fiddler began his solo career in 1991 with his first solo album *With Respect* as Mr. Fiddler. In 2004, he released his next album, *Waltz of a Ghettofly*, under the name Amp Fiddler, which became his most commercially successful album. On this album, he was able to collaborate as creative partners with his mentee J Dilla. His album *Basementality* was released in 2021 two years before his untimely death in 2023 after a lengthy bout with cancer. The honorary street sign will reside at 7 Mile Road & Revere Avenue in the Conant Gardens neighborhood where Fiddler was raised.

Location: Intersection of 7 Mile Road & Revere Avenue (District 3)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioner: Council Member Scott Benson
- Council Member Letters of Support: Gabriela Santiago-Romero; Mary Waters; Coleman A. Young II
- Supporters: Tombi Steward-Fiddler, widow



HDAB staff has reviewed the petition for **Joseph Anthony “Amp” Fiddler** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.

Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Detroit Resident 10+ Years
- Deceased 5+ Years – Mr. Fiddler passed 12/18/23
- 3 letters from City Council members for death date exception

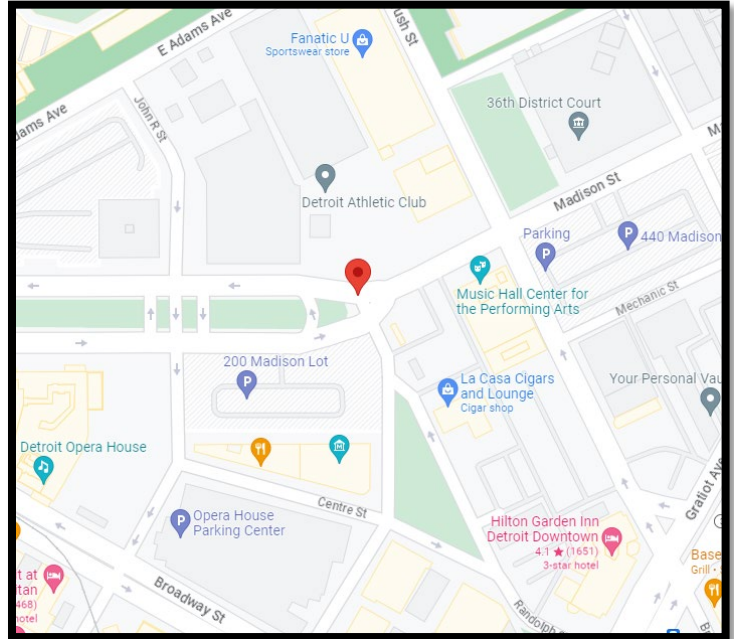
Hooker, John Lee (6 of 13) | 2022, 2023 Rollover Application

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of John Lee Hooker at the intersection of Randolph Street & Madison Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

Individual Contributions:

Born the son of a sharecropper in Mississippi, American blues singer, songwriter, and guitarist, blues legend John Lee Hooker moved to Detroit around World War II to work in factory jobs, including for Ford. Having learned guitar in his youth, he performed in clubs on Hastings Street and was influenced by Detroit's music scene, later turning to the electric guitar to give more sound to his instrument. He first recorded his songs with Detroit-based Sensation Records and by 1948 was recording with other labels. He earned the reputation as one of the most prominent blues musicians of his time. Hooker was known for adapting the Delta blues to the electric guitar, thus giving the blues a uniquely different sound, which was soon recognized within the national music scene. John Lee Hooker's early recordings included *Boogie Chillen*, *Crawling King Snake* and *Weeping Willows*. Hooker won numerous awards and accolades: three Grammys and the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. In 1980 he was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. He acted in several movies: *The Blues Brothers* (1980) and *The Color Purple* (1985).



Location: Intersection of Madison Avenue & Randolph Street (District 5 & 6 border)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioner: Vincent Paul, Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts
- Supporters: Zakiya Hooker, daughter

HDAB staff has reviewed the petition for **John Lee Hooker** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.

Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Detroit Resident 10+ Years
- Deceased 5+ Years
- Rollover application from 2022 and 2023 Cycles

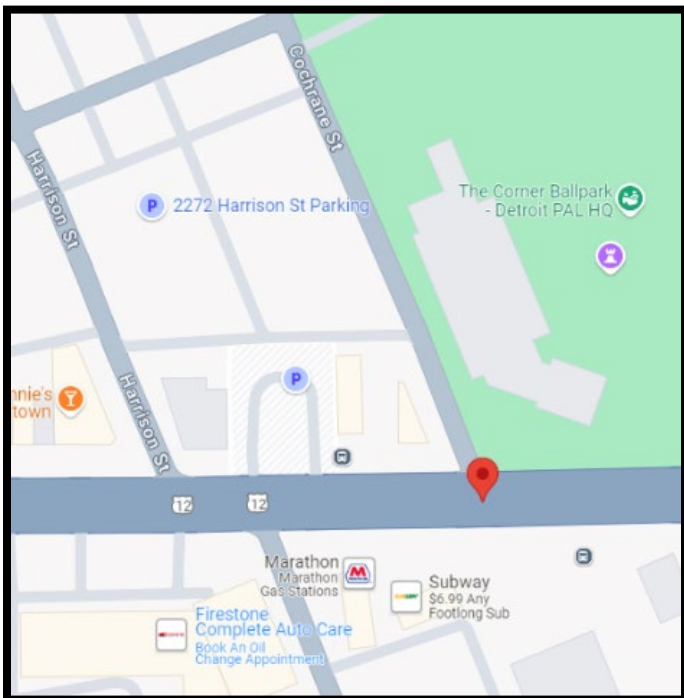
Lane, Dick “Night Train” (7 of 13)

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Dick “Night Train” Lane at the intersection of Cochrane Street & Michigan Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

Individual Contributions:

Dick “Night Train” Lane is a famed team member of the Detroit Lions, where he was a player from 1960-1965 when the Lions played at the former Briggs Stadium. It was the last team he played for in his NFL career and maintained Detroit as his home, having lived in the Bagley neighborhood for over 20 years. In 1974, he was inducted in the Pro-football Hall of Fame. He holds the NFL record for the most interceptions in a single, 12-game season. The Lions included him in Pride of the Lions, the Detroit Lions 75th Anniversary Team and the Detroit Lions All-Time Team. Appointed by Mayor Coleman A. Young in 1975 as its first manager, Lane led the Detroit Police Athletic League (PAL) for 17 years. He oversaw its expansion to 16 centers and over 20,000 participants, including youth, families, and police officers. He retired in 1992 and died in 2002. The honorary street side will reside on the west side of The Corner Ballpark at Cochrane Street and Michigan Avenue, the current headquarters of PAL and former site of Briggs (later Tiger) Stadium.



Location: Intersection of Cochrane Street & Michigan Avenue (District 6)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioners: Richard Lane Jr., son; Richard Walker, son; Council Member Coleman A. Young II
- Council Member Letters of Support: Angela Whitfield Calloway; Gabriela Santiago-Romero
- Supporters: Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib; David Greenwood, Detroit PAL; Willie Horton, Detroit PAL; Rev. Horace L. Sheffield, III, DABO; Rev. Kenyetta Snapp, New Destiny Christian Fellowship; Gregory Morgan; Chuck Stokes, WXYZ-TV 7/20; Willie Bell, Family Assistance for Renaissance Men; Versala Parish, Rhythm Wellness Center

HDAB staff has reviewed the petition for **Dick “Night Train” Lane** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.

Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Detroit Resident 10+ Years
- Deceased 5+ Years

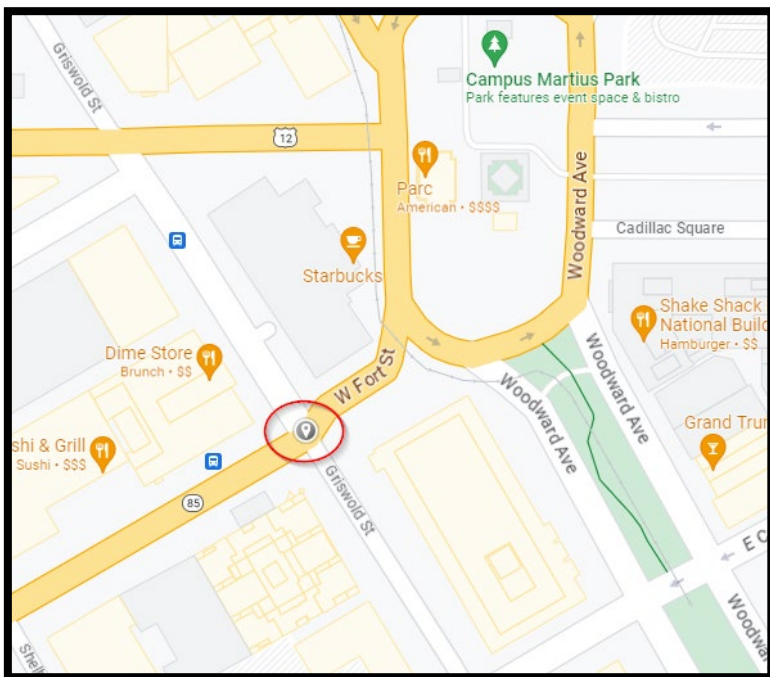
Lee, Sr., Aubrey (8 of 13) | 2024 Rollover Application

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Mr. Aubrey Lee Sr. at the intersection of Griswold Street and W. Fort Street is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

Individual Contributions:

Aubrey Lee Sr. was a leader in the Detroit banking industry for over a quarter of a century. In 1966, Mr. Lee was one of the first African American branch managers at National Bank of Detroit and later became the first African American Vice President at the same institution. In 1974, Mr. Lee founded the Urban Banking Forum – known today as Urban Financial Services Coalition (UFSC) – through which he fostered mentoring programs, scholarships, networking opportunities, and advocacy initiatives for minorities in the financial services sector. He championed diversity and inclusion within the banking industry, actively extending loans to minority-owned businesses and places of worship.



Location: Intersection of Griswold Street & W. Fort Street (District 6)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioners: Michael R. Tyson and Council Member Coleman A. Young II
- Supporters: Jeane F. Lee, widower

HDAB staff has reviewed the petition for **Aubrey Lee Sr.** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.

Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Detroit Resident 10+ Years
- Deceased 5+ Years
- Rollover application from 2024 Cycle

Loepp, Daniel J. (9 of 13)

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Daniel J. Loepp at the intersection of Whittier Avenue & Chandler Park Drive is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

Individual Contributions:

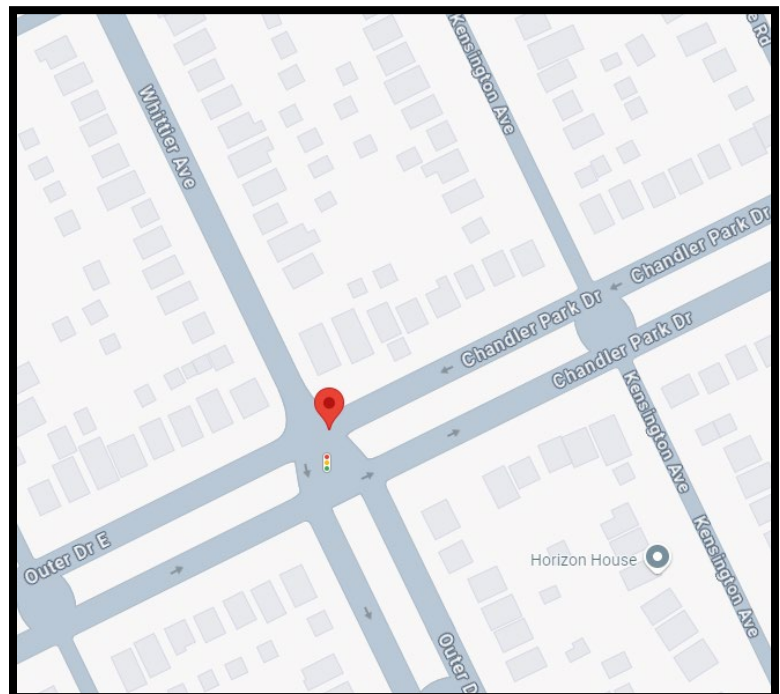
Daniel J. Loepp is a long-time business leader in Detroit and since 2006 has served as the President and CEO of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. He will retire from that post at year-end. During his career at Blue Cross Blue Shield he helped modernize the delivery of health care in Michigan and remain committed to its nonprofit mission. BCBS of Michigan remains the only carrier offering Affordable Care Act plans in all 83 Michigan counties. As a community leader, he has dedicated his life to business mentorship and internship programs for thousands of students. He has held leadership roles with many Detroit and Michigan non-profit organizations, especially with missions in business and health. His philanthropy, through the Daniel J. Loepp Family Foundation, has established an endowed scholarship at Wayne State University, his alma mater. He is an honorary board member of the Detroit Regional Chamber. The honorary street sign will reside at Whittier Avenue and Chandler Park Drive, near the first home he purchased at the age of 21 near Balduck Park, a place he loves and in the East side community where he has focused many of his philanthropic efforts.

Location: Intersection of Whittier Avenue & Chandler Park Drive (District 4)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioner: Council Member Latisha Johnson
- Council Member Letters of Support: Scott Benson; Mary Waters; Council President Mary Sheffield
- Supporter: Amy Loepp, wife

HDAB staff has reviewed the petition for **Daniel J. Loepp** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.



Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Detroit Resident 10+ Years
- Deceased 5+ Years - not deceased
- 3 letters from City Council members for death date exception

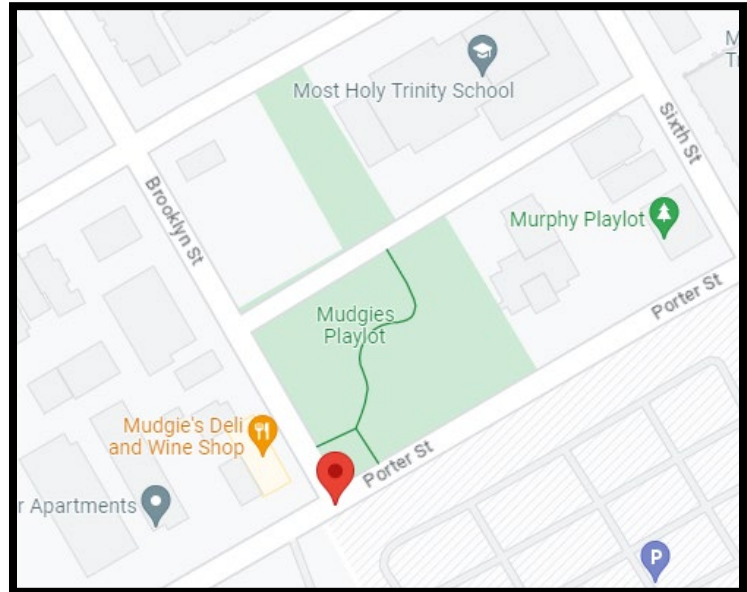
Mudge, Gregory (10 of 13) | 2022 Rollover Application

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Gregory Mudge at the intersection of Brooklyn Street & Porter Street is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

Individual Contributions:

Gregory Mudge opened Mudgie's Deli in February 2008 and immediately became involved in the Corktown community. He was known for using local Detroit suppliers and hiring young people from the community to work in his restaurant. To help feed the homeless, he developed a token program where customers purchased a token for five dollars to give to a homeless person to redeem for a sandwich, bag of chips and drink at the restaurant. Mudgie's Deli has been recognized in the restaurant industry and earned numerous awards. Voted Best Deli in Wayne County-Metro Times 2010-2011; Best Sandwich Shop 2013-2021-Hour Detroit Magazine; Leggo Sandwich-One of the best sandwiches in America-Food Network; Thrillist-Top 33 sandwich shops in the U.S. Greg Mudge was a member of both the Corktown Business Association and the East End Corktown Block Club. The honorary street sign will be located at the intersection near his deli.



Location: Intersection of Brooklyn Street & Porter Street (District 6)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioners: Debra Walker (East End Corktown Block Club, Central Corktown Block Club, Train Station Neighbor's Block Club, Corktown Business Association) and Former Council Member Castaneda-Lopez
- Council Member Letters of Support: Gabriela Santiago-Romero; Former Council President Brenda Jones
- Supporters: Liza Pulgini, widow

HDAB staff has reviewed the petition for **Gregory Mudge** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.

Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Detroit Resident 10+ Years
- Deceased 5+ Years - Mr. Mudge passed 9/5/21
- 3 letters from City Council members for death date exception
- Rollover application from 2022 and 2023 Cycles

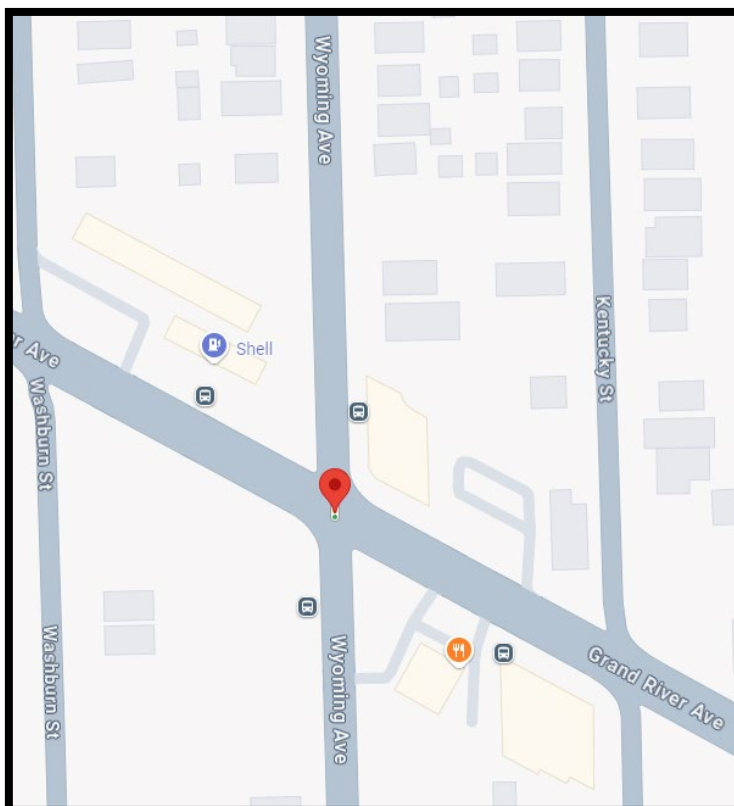
Sheffield, Horace L. Jr. (11 of 13)

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Horace L. Sheffield, Jr. at the intersection of Wyoming Avenue & Grand River Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

Individual Contributions:

Horace L. Sheffield was born in 1916 in Georgia and moved with his family to Detroit at the age of 2. He was educated in Detroit Public Schools and went to work at the age of 18 at the Ford River Rouge Plant. He became active with the UAW and became a union official in 1941. He held leadership positions at the UAW from 1941-1981. Mr. Sheffield was a labor and civil rights activist, political leader, journalist for the Detroit News and Michigan Chronicle, and moderated a weekly television show *Focus Detroit* on WJBK and moderated a weekly radio program *The Freedom Forum* on WCHB. He served as president of the Detroit Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and as a director of the Detroit branch of the NAACP. He was given an Honorary Doctorate of Law from Wayne State University and University of Michigan. He died in 1995. The honorary street sign will reside at Wyoming Avenue and Grand River Avenue, the location of the Horace L. Sheffield Jr. Center for Organizational Development – home to the Detroit Association of Black Organizations (DABO), founded by Sheffield in 1979.



Location: Intersection of Wyoming Avenue & Grand River (District 7)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioners: Horace L. Sheffield, III; Dr. Carolyn Carter; and City Council President Mary Sheffield
- HDAB received 17 letters of support

The Historic Designation Advisory Board (HDAB) staff has reviewed the petition for **Horace L. Sheffield, Jr.** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.

Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Detroit Resident 10+ Years
- Deceased 5+ Years

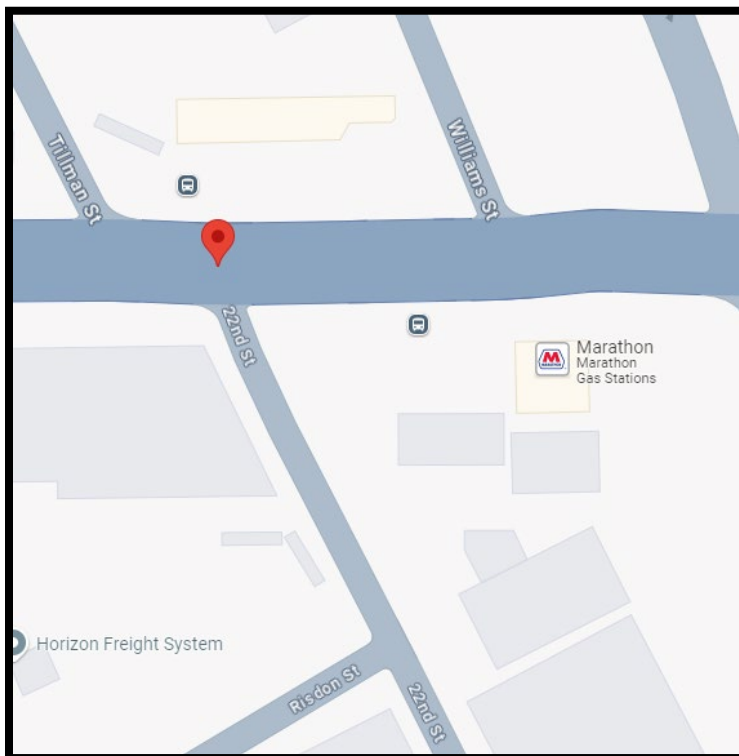
Sinclair, John (12 of 13)

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of John Sinclair at the intersection of 22nd Street & Michigan Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

Individual Contributions:

John Sinclair was born in Flint in 1941 and moved to Detroit in 1964 where he spent the rest of his life. He was an artist, poet and political and civil rights activist who fought for artists of color and cannabis legalization. In 1968, he co-founded the White Panther party an anti-racism action group. He was a founder of The Detroit Artists Workshop and the underground paper The Fifth Estate. He worked as editor of the Detroit Sun newspaper, founded and directed the Detroit Jazz Center, was an adjunct professor of popular music history at Wayne State University, an artists' manager—including the MC5- and concert producer, WDET-FM program host, director of the City Arts Gallery for the Detroit Council of the Arts and editor of City Arts Quarterly. In 1969 Mr. Sinclair was arrested and spent almost 3 years of a 10-year sentence in prison for giving (not selling) two joints to an undercover agent. This harsh sentence was due to his high-profile activism. The case made its way to the Michigan Supreme court after widespread media coverage of an Ann Arbor concert/rally that demanded his release. Stevie Wonder, John Lennon (who wrote a song titled John Sinclair), Yoko Ono, Bod Seger, amongst others performed. Bobby Seal and Allan Ginsburg were speakers at the event. The sentence was subsequently overturned, and the conviction thrown out. His trial, conviction, and activism were the beginnings of Michigan's de-criminalization and legalization of cannabis. Mr. Sinclair lived on 22nd Street (near Michigan Ave) for many years and much of his work occurred while he resided there.



Location: Intersection of 22nd Street & Michigan Avenue (District 6)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioners: George Mugianis and Council Member Mary Waters
- Council Member Letters of Support: Fred Durhal III; Council President Mary Sheffield
- Supporters: Marion and Celia Sinclair, daughters

HDAB staff has reviewed the petition for **John Sinclair** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.

Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Detroit Resident 10+ Years
- Deceased 5+ Years – Mr. Sinclair passed on 4/2/2024
- 3 letters from City Council members for death date exception

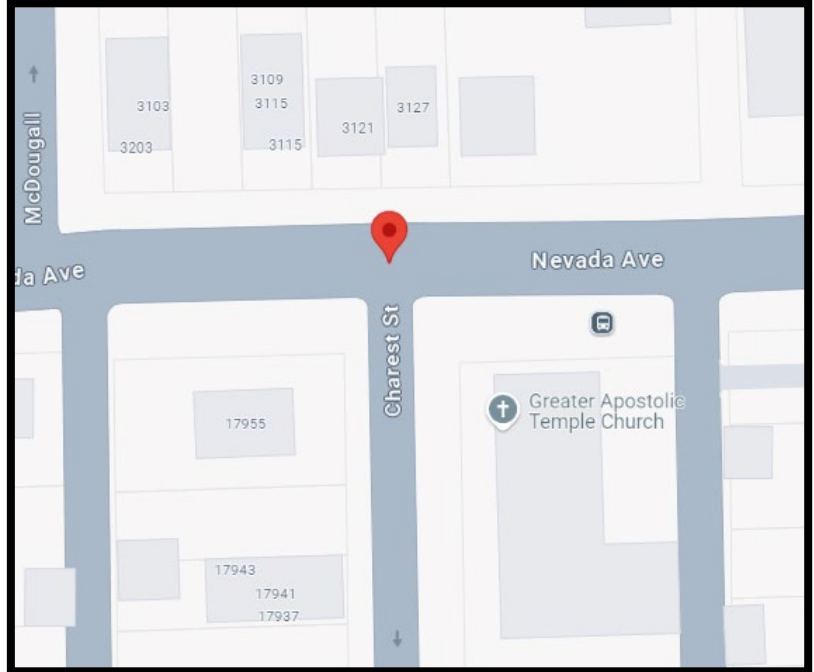
Yancey, James Dewitt “J Dilla”(13 of 13)

Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of J Dilla at the intersection of Nevada Street & Charest Street is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

Individual Contributions:

James Dewitt “J Dilla” Yancey was a successful musician, composer and music producer, having advanced the genre of Hip-Hop and the use of drum machines and digital sampling. He recorded individually and with the Detroit group Slum Village, changing the rhythmic sounds of Hip-Hop and influencing dozens of future artists. Those rhythmic concepts – a conflicted time-feel that collided straight and swung pulses to create a woozy, limping beat – highly influenced both electronic and traditional composers. He attended Pershing High School and was closely associated with Detroit musician Amp Fiddler – both were raised in the Conant Garden neighborhood. The honorary street sign will reside at Nevada Avenue and Charest Street, near J Dilla’s family home on Nevada Street where he recorded in a basement studio.



Location: Intersection of Nevada Street & Charest Street (District 3)

Application is supported by:

- Petitioners: Joylette Hunter and Pay Jay Productions, Ins.
- Supporters: Darby Wheeler, Scenario Media; Ja’Mya Yancey, daughter; Dan Charnas, Associate Professor, NYU; Ahmir “Questlove” Thompson, TWONEFIVE Entertainment ; Lonnie Rashid Lynn aka Common; Karriem Riggins; Peter Phillips

HDAB staff has reviewed the petition for **James Dewitt “J Dilla” Yancey** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign and has reviewed the documentation submitted by the petitioner. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff has determined that this petition **meets** the eligibility requirements per the Secondary Street Sign Ordinance.

Eligibility:

- Application Fee Received
- Detroit Resident 10+ Years
- Deceased 5+ Years