

**CITY COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC DESIGNATION ADVISORY BOARD**

218 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Detroit, Michigan 48226

Phone: 313-224-3487 Fax: 313-224-4336

Email: [historic@detroitmi.gov](mailto:historic@detroitmi.gov)

TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: Janese Chapman, Director,  
Janice Tillmon, Historic Planner,  
Historic Designation Advisory Board

DATE: September 8, 2025

RE: Scheduling a Secondary Street Sign Public Hearing and submitting reports

**Secondary Street Sign, 21-day comment period** - In accordance with **Sec. 43-3-53 (2) (b)** Upon expiration of the 21-day comment period, the Legislative Policy Division shall make a written report summarizing the comments and objections, if any, regarding the petition, and forward the report to the City Council.

**Secondary Street Sign “candidates” Report and Public hearing** – we respectfully request of the Honorable Detroit City Council to receive the Historic Designation Advisory Board’s 2025 Secondary Street Sign Report. In accordance with **Sec. 43-3-55 (a)** Upon receipt of the report from the Legislative Policy Division, the City Council shall adopt a resolution scheduling the time and place of a public hearing.

# City of Detroit

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TO: The Honorable City Council, City of Detroit

FROM: Janese Chapman, Director,  
Janice N. Tillmon, Historic Planner,  
Historic Designation Advisory Board

DATE: September 8, 2025

SUBJECT: Summary of Public Responses to Proposed Locations for Secondary Street Signs  
–2025 Application Cycle

Per Section 43-3-53 or 43-3-62 of the Detroit City Code, the Historic Designation Advisory Board (HDAB) mailed requests for comment notifications to property owners and residents within 300 feet of *nine proposed locations* for Secondary Street Signs. Comment notifications also were sent to the Detroit Fire Department, Detroit Police Department Precinct Stations, Detroit Department of Public Works and the United States Postal Service. Recipients had twenty-one (21) days from the receipt of notice to submit comments or objections on a requested Secondary Street Sign location for the 2025 application cycle.

There are 23 applications for the 2025 Secondary Street Sign cycle, 8 rollovers and 15 new candidates. The 8 rollovers candidates' communities have received their 21-day notice in previous years, however all the candidates that received support or objections during the 21-comment period information will be listed below.

Only 8 candidates received community support or objections during the 21-day comment period. The candidates are as follows:

- **George Cook** (new) - intersection of **Wyoming Avenue & Pickford Avenue** (District 2), received 7 letters of support from: Linda Chambers, Bret Chennault, Edward Darnell, Terry Ennis (nephew), Michelle Rhea-Green, Velma C. Sanford and Andrea Tucker (niece)
- **Gabriel Fred Crutcher** (rollover) intersection of **E. Bethune Street and Beaubien Boulevard** (District 5), received a letter support from: Linda Pouncy with request for change in sign name to BISHOP GABRIEL FRED CRUTCHER
- **Ernest Harden, Jr** (new) – intersection of **St. Aubin Street & Cody Street** (District 3), received a letter of objection from: Tonia Gladney

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- **Ronald Hewitt** (new) – intersection of **LaSalle Street & Edison Street** (District 5), received 2 letters of support from: Ms. Jo Slaughter and Beverly Norrell Aitch
- **Dick “Night Train” Lane** (rollover) intersection of **Cochrane Street and Michigan Avenue** (District 6), received 2 letters of support from: Detroit PAL and The Corner Ballpark presented by Adient
- **Viola Liuzoo** (new) intersection **Pembroke Avenue and Mansfield Street** (District 2), received a letter of support from: Sharon Sexton
- **Jalen Rose** (new) intersection of **Hubbell Avenue and Trojan Street** (District 2), received a letter of support from: Kathy Carter
- **Martha Jean “The Queen” Steinberg** (new) intersection **Monica Street and Grandriver Avenue** (District 7), received a letter of support from: Tonia Miller who submitted a 1996 Michigan Chronicle article featuring Martha Jean “The Queen” Steinberg and the Daughters of Zion.

The Historic Designation Advisory Board did not receive responses from the Detroit Fire Department, Detroit Police Department Precinct Stations, Detroit Department of Public Works or the United States Postal Service.

David Whitaker, Esq.  
Director  
Irvin Corley, Jr.  
Executive Policy Manager  
Marcell R. Todd, Jr.  
Director, City Planning  
Commission  
Janese Chapman  
Director, Historic Designation  
Advisory Board

John Alexander  
LaKisha Barclift, Esq.  
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M. Rory Bolger, Ph.D., FAICP  
Victory Corley  
Lisa DiChiera  
Eric Fazzini, AICP  
Willene Green  
Christopher Gulock, AICP

**City of Detroit**  
**CITY COUNCIL**  
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Thomas Stephens, Esq.  
Timarie Szwed  
Theresa Thomas  
Janice Tillmon  
Ian Tomashik  
Emberly Vick  
Ashley A. Wilson

**To:** Honorable City Council

**From:** David Whitaker, Director, Legislative Policy Division; Janese Chapman, Director Historic Designation Advisory Board 

**CC:** Janice Tillmon, Historic Planner, Historic Designation Advisory Board

**Date:** September 8, 2025

**RE:** 2025 Secondary Street Sign Applications, *Updated Report*

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 candidate'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:

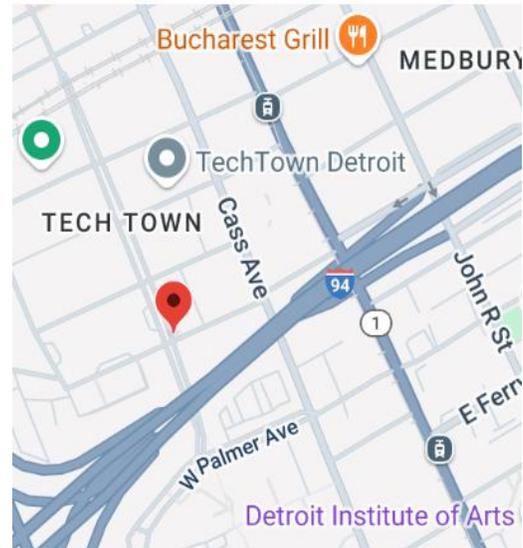
### Clinton, George (1 of 23)

#### Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of George Clinton at the intersection of Antionette Street & Second Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

#### Individual Contributions:

George Clinton, the Father of Funk, had a career that began in the 1950s and continues to today. But beyond his career, his spirit invades all that is hip-hop, and funk produced by anyone. For a period in the 1960s Clinton was a staff songwriter for Motown while he arranged scores of songs on independent Detroit soul music labels. Clinton and the Parliaments eventually found success under the names Parliament and Funkadelic in the 1970s. These two bands combined the elements of musicians such as Jimi Hendrix, Sly and the Family Stone, Frank Zappa and James Brown while exploring various sounds, technology and lyricism. Clinton and Parliament-Funkadelic dominated Black music during the 1970s, with over 40 R&B hit singles (including three number ones) and three platinum albums. And they did that work right here in Detroit at the iconic, now empty United Sound Studio. From 1971-1983, Clinton's Parliament-Funkadelic collective. Clinton launched his solo career with the 1982 album Computer Games and would go on to influence 1990s hip-hop and G-funk. Clinton is regarded, along with James Brown and Sly Stone, as one of the foremost innovators of funk music. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1997, alongside 15 other members of Parliament-Funkadelic. In 2019, he and Parliament-Funkadelic were given Grammy Lifetime Achievement Awards. His music, the way he spiritually connected musicians and audiences for more than 50 years has made him a household name in houses that know funk, in Detroit, in Berlin, in London, in New York, in Dallas, in Atlanta, in the universe.



**Location:** Intersection of Antionette Street & Second Avenue (District 5)

#### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioners: Council Member Coleman A. Young II, Council Member Scott Benson & Rochelle Riley
- Council Member Letters of Support: Council Member Fred Durhal
- Supporters: Barbarella Bishop, daughter, Rochelle Riley, Detroit Arts, Culture & Entrepreneurship, Keith Owens, Detroit Music and Cultural Critic

The Historic Designation Advisory Board (HDAB) staff have reviewed the petition for **George Clinton** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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

## Collins, Barbara-Rose (2 of 23)

### Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Barbara-Rose Collin at the intersection of Chene Street and Mack Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

### Individual Contributions:

Barbara-Rose Richardson was born in Detroit, MI on April 13, 1939. She attended Detroit Public Schools graduating from Cass Technical High as a music major. Barbara-Rose Richardson continued her education at Wayne State University, where she studied Political Science and Anthropology. In 1959, she married her high school sweetheart, Virgil Gary Collins and had 3 children Crystal, Cynthnia and Christopher Collins. After attending a historic speech at the Shrine of the Black Madonna Church given by Stokely Carmichael, Ms. Collins join the Shrine and dedicated herself to the grassroots movement and the liberation of Black people. In 1972, she was elected to the Detroit Board of Education. She sponsored several programs and reforms to improve the quality of education for Detroit students. In 1974, Barbara-Rose Collins was elected as a State Representative and served 3



terms in the Michigan House of Representatives. Barbara-Rose yearned to play a greater role in the stewardship of Detroit and, upon counsel from her friend and mentor Mayor Coleman A. Young, she ran for and was elected to the Detroit City Council in 1981. She served two terms for City Council as an at-large member. In 1990, she ran a successful campaign and made history by becoming the first Black woman from Michigan to represent Detroit in the United State House of Representatives. During her tenure in Congress, where she served from 1991 to 1997 and was appointed Majority Whip. Barbara-Rose sponsored various legislation, sat on numerous committees and urged farmers to address deficiencies in food with donations to urban food banks. After her time at congress Barbara-Rose was elected again to the Detroit City Council serving 3 additional terms from 2001 until her retirement in 2011.

Barbara-Rose Collins was a public servant, community activist, mother, businesswoman and trailblazer. She became an icon for defending poor, undereducated, and underserved citizens of Detroit. She was known for representing those she felt had no voice or seat at the table.

**Location:** Intersection of Chene Street and Mack Avenue (District 5)

### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioners: Council President Pro-Tem James Tate and Bruce Simpson & Ombudsman Bruce Simpson

The Historic Designation Advisory Board (HDAB) staff have reviewed the petition for **Barbara-Rose Collins** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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 – Mrs. Collins passed on 11/4/21
- A City Council member sponsorship letter for U.S. House of Representative death exception

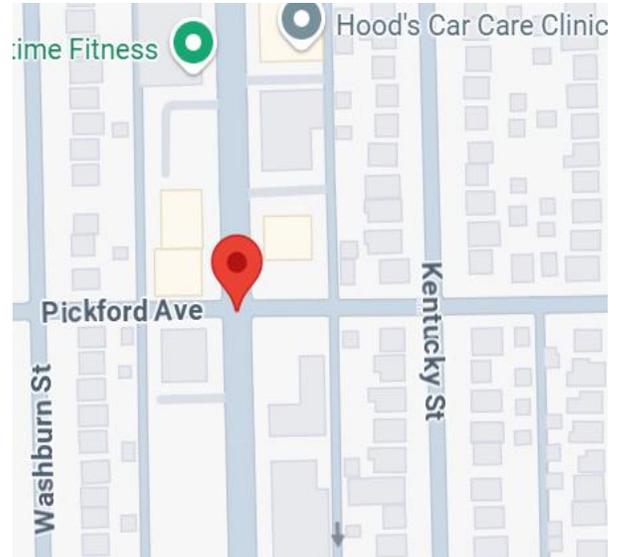
## Cook Jr., George W. (3 of 23)

### Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of George W. Cook Jr. at the intersection of Wyoming Avenue and Pickford Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

### Individual Contributions:

George W. Cook Jr. was a trailblazer. In 1970, he made history as the first Black Baskin-Robbins franchise owner in the United States. Alongside his wife, he built a thriving business in the Wyoming/Curtis business district, offering not only sweet treats but also a symbol of Black excellence in entrepreneurship. The couple owned the very building that housed their ice cream shop, as well as Cook's Party Store, a local gathering place that became a cornerstone of the community. Their success expanded beyond Wyoming/Curtis—Cook also established a second store on the Avenue of Fashion, a historic Black business corridor that continues to thrive today. As the owner of Cook's Corner Party Shop, George Cook provided job opportunities for seniors and young adults. His contributions did not go unnoticed—his entrepreneurial success was highlighted in the 1980s edition of Black Enterprise magazine, a testament to the influence and reach of his work. Mr. Cook also provided services to the national community by serving four years in the United States Army. And maintaining a lifetime member with the NAACP, where he actively engaged in fighting for civil rights and economic equality throughout his life. Perhaps most inspiring was his commitment to lifelong learning. At 75 years old, he returned to high school to earn his diploma, achieving a 4.0 GPA and fulfilling a promise he made to his mother decades earlier. George W. Cook Jr. stood as a pillar of strength, resilience, and innovation in the City of Detroit. His story is one of perseverance, community investment, and an unwavering commitment to economic empowerment.



**Location:** Intersection of Wyoming Avenue and Pickford Avenue (District 2)

### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioner: Council Member Coleman A. Young II and Cheryl Cook-Gibson
- Supporters: Cheryl Cook-Gibson (daughter)

**After the application was submitted,** HDAB received 5 additional letters of support during the 21-day comment period from: Bret Chennault, Edward Darnell, Terry Ennis (nephew), Michelle Rhea-Greene and Andrea Tucker (niece)

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **George W. Cook Jr.** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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

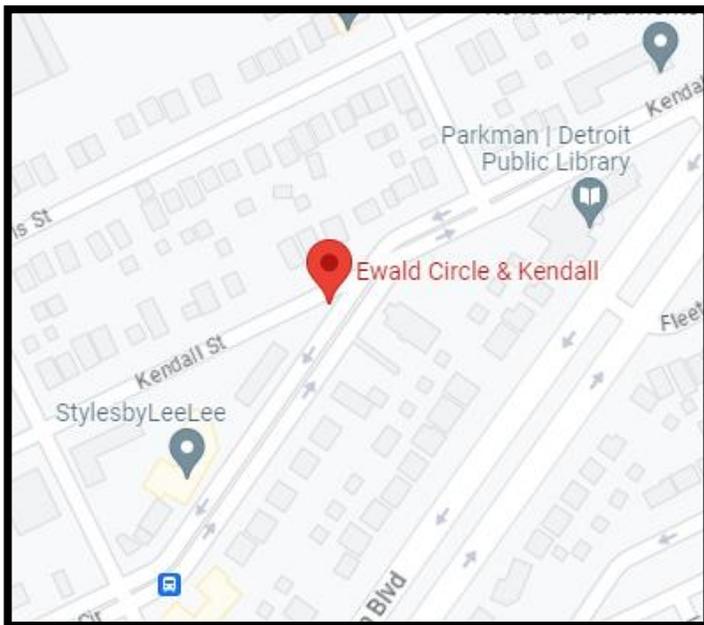
## Crews, Sr., Rev. Dr. Clarence L. (4 of 23) | 2023 Rollover Application

### 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 materials include support from:

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

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Rev. Dr. Clarence L Crews. Sr.** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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

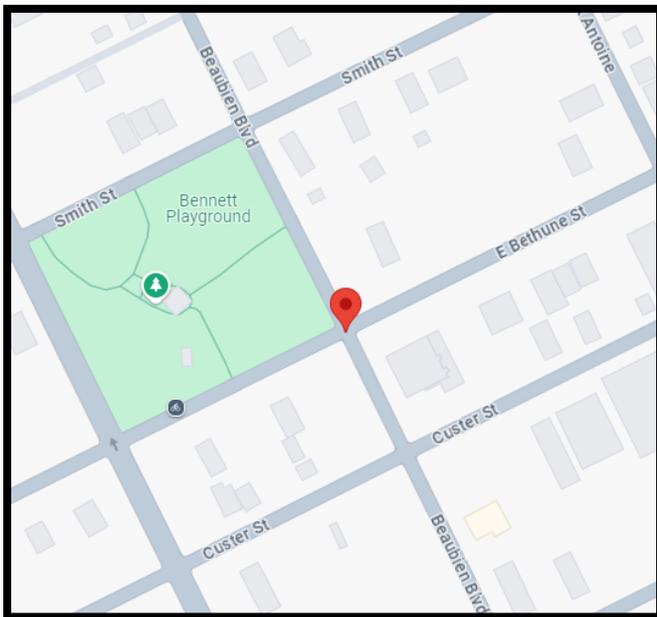
## Crutcher, Gabriel Fred ( 5 of 23) | 2024 Rollover Application

### 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 materials include support from:

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

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Bishop Gabriel Fred Crutcher** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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
- Rollover application from 2024 Cycle

## El-Amin, Imam Abdullah (6 of 23)

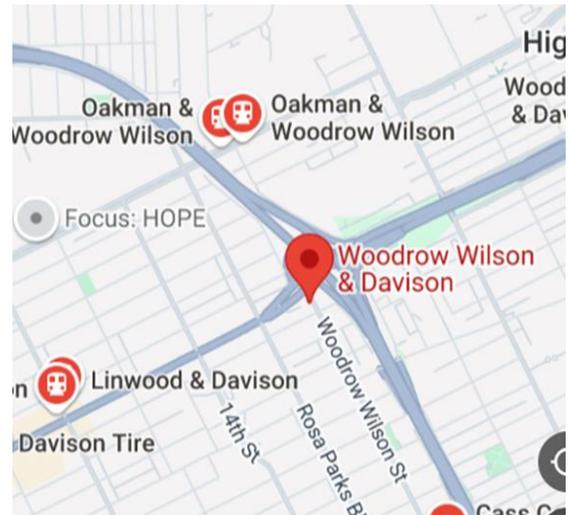
### Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Imam Abdullah El-Amin at the intersection of Davison Avenue and Woodrow Wilson Street is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

### Individual Contributions:

Imam Abdullah El-Amin was born as RasBerry Holland III in Little Rock, Arkansas, to Christian parents who moved to Detroit in search of a better life, part of a wave of Black migrants moving north. A conversion with a friend in 1976 led him into a new world of faith as he became a prominent leader in Michigan Muslim, Black and interfaith communities who often engaged with Christians, Jews, and others. As a longtime leader with the Muslim Center in Detroit, El-Amin sought to promote unity among diverse groups within the Muslim community and with other faith groups and races (Detroit Free Press). Imam Abdullah El-Amin was a devoted father and lifelong partner to Dr. Cheryl El-Amin. He was an U.S. Army Veteran. He co-founder of the Muslim Center Detroit. He was a visionary community leader known for his proactive approach to solving community challenges. He was a champion for Muslim Political involvement, advocating for greater Muslim representation in local leadership. He founded Crescent Janazah services providing vital burial services for Metro Detroit's Muslim families. He was an author of *The Spiritual Adam* – a work exploring faith and human connection. He was also a global connector representing the Detroit's Muslim community internationally.

Mr. El-Amin was a visionary leader whose impact reached far beyond his community. His lifelong dedication to faith, service, and justice continues to inspire others. Through his work in Detroit and beyond, He touched countless lives leaving a profound legacy that will be felt for generations to come.



**Location:** Intersection of Davison Avenue and Woodrow Wilson Street (District 2 & 5)

### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioner: Council Member Coleman A. Young II and Thomas Jermaine Carey
- Council Member Letters of Support: Council Member Fred Durhal & Council Member Scott Benson
- Support: Zarinah, Maurice, & Idris El-Amin and Carolyn Pruitt, Mr. El-Amin's children, Steve Spreitzer, Michigan Roundtable for Just Communities, Rev. Daniel S. Appleyard

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Imam Abdullah El-Amin** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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. El-Amin passed on 3/10/23
- 3 letters from City Council members for death date exception

## Fakhouri, Dr. Haifa (7 of 23)

### Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Dr. Haifa Fakhouri at the intersection of 7 Mile Road & Debry Street is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

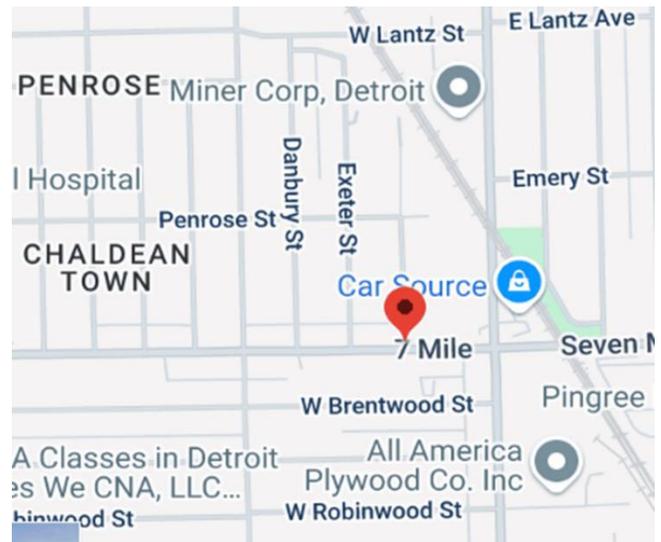
### Individual Contributions:

Dr. Haifa Fakhouri is a transformational leader whose lifelong dedication to community service has left an indelible mark on the city of Detroit. As the founder, president, and CEO of America's Community Council (formerly the Arab American and Chaldean Council), Dr. Fakhouri has spent over 45 years building bridges, delivering critical services, and improving the quality of life for tens of thousands of residents in Michigan. ACC now serves more than 80,000 individuals annually with programs ranging from health care, behavioral health, and youth services to job training, immigration assistance, and housing support.

Dr. Fakhouri's deep and unwavering commitment to the neighborhood surrounding John R and West 7 Mile is why this area remains a symbol of her legacy. Dr. Fakhouri brought in affordable housing, working with the City to enhance streetscapes, and spearheading a \$37 million revitalization initiative that included the construction of a new ACC headquarters, youth leadership and recreation center, and artisan space. Most recently, she secured

\$12 million for a new community development center and acquired 94 blighted properties for future housing projects—cementing her ongoing investment in the future of this neighborhood.

Dr. Fakhouri's impact extends globally as well; she served as a special advisor to the United Nations on the status of women and population policy in the Middle East. Her service has earned her a place in the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame and the International Institute Hall of Fame, and accolades such as the Detroit Urban League's Distinguished Warriors Award, Arab American Businesswoman of the Year, and the 2024 Detroit Red Wings and Tigers Game Changers Award. Dr. Fakhouri's life work is a testament to compassionate leadership and unshakable commitment to equity and empowerment.



**Location:** Intersection of 7 Mile Road & Debry Street (District 3)

### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioner: Council Member Coleman A. Young and Kim Tandy
- Council Member Letters of Support: Council President Mary Sheffield & Council Member Scott Benson
- Support: Odie Fakhouri, America's Community Council

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Dr. Haifa Farhouri** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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

## Harden Jr, Ernest (8 of 23)

### Request:

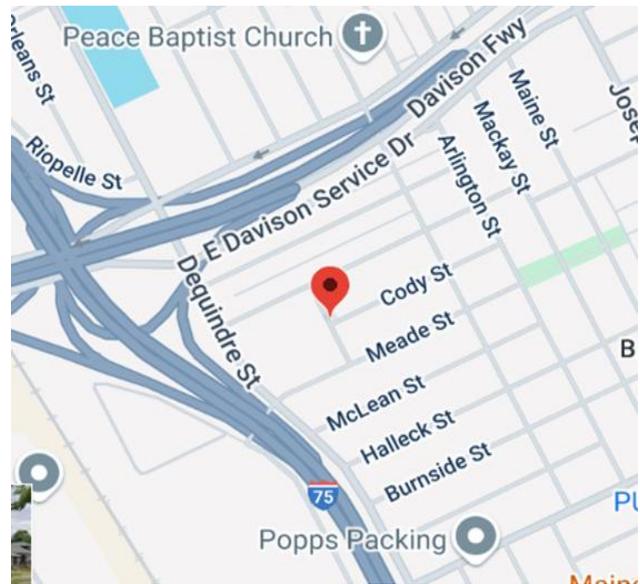
The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Ernest Harden, Jr, at the intersection of St. Aubin Street & Cody Street is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

### Individual Contributions:

Ernest Harden Jr., was born in Detroit in 1950, graduated from Pershing High School and graduated from Michigan State University in 1974. After graduation Ernest moved to New York to start his acting career. Ernest started his acting career in films like *Three Days of the Condor* with Robert Redford, *The Front* with Woody Alan, and *Taxi Driver* with Robert De Niro. Soon after arriving in Los Angeles, he was awarded the regular role of Marcus Henderson on the hit television show *The Jeffersons*. He has starred and guest-starred in numerous TV shows and feature films including *Roots*, *White Men Can't Jump*, *The Transporter 2* and *J. Edgar*, directed by Clint Eastwood. Ernest is the only African American to star opposite Ms. Bette Davis in a film. The film was called "White Mama." It was one of the last films Ms. Davis ever made.

Mr. Harden also had a one-man show, performed on stage, and in short films. He is currently in the Amazon Prime series *Them* produced by Lena Waithe, HBO MAX, *It's Florida Man* and *The Pitt* starring Noah Wiley. He is a lifetime member of the Actors Studio.

Mr. Harden has represented Detroit as an actor on a national stage as well as dedicating himself to enriching the lives of those in the city. Mr. Harden has supported local arts programs and mentored aspiring actors in Detroit.



**Location:** Intersection of St. Aubin Street & Cody Street (District 3)

### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioner: Council Member Scott Benson
- Council Member Letters of Support: Council Member Mary Waters & Council Member Fred Durhal III
- Support: Rev. Dr. Nichols Hood III, Ann Connally and Gregory Kelsner

**Note:** HDAB received a letter objecting to this proposed candidate. The community resident expressed "that residents in the area have not experienced tangible benefit Mr. Harden's success or community involvement".

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Ernest Harden, Jr**, for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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

## Hewitt, Ronald (9 of 23)

### Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Ronald Hewitt at the intersection of LaSalle Boulevard and Edison Street is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

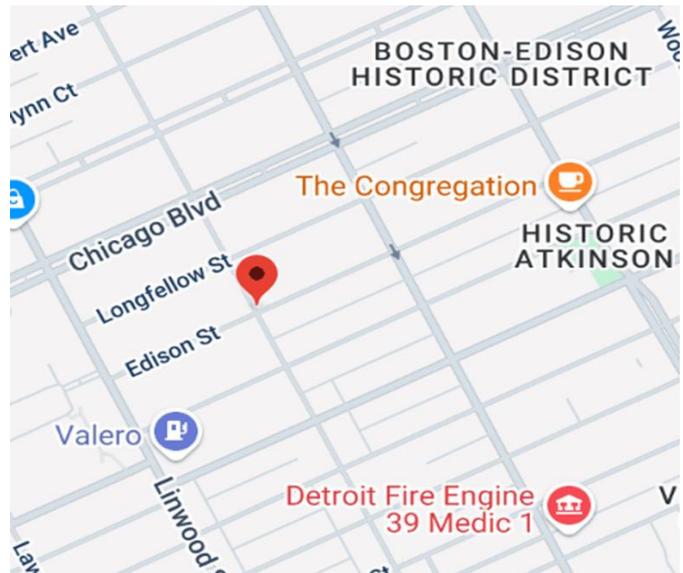
### Individual Contributions:

Ronald Hewitt was born on October 31, 1932, in Welch, West Virginia. He graduated from Fisk University and was married for 43 years with six children.

Mr. Hewitt worked 33 years for the City of Detroit serving under 3 mayors as the director of several departments including Housing, Planning, DOT, Welfare, Community Economic and Development. Mr. Hewitt also served as executive assistant to Mayor Coleman A. Young. He traveled as Head of State for Detroit to Amsterdam, Brussels, China, Denmark, Japan, London and Paris.

Mr. Hewitt was instrumental in negotiating the land deal for the Charles H. Wright African American Museum. He traveled to Toronto to pick out the stone for the museum and negotiated the hiring of a minority contractor to do the work. Charles H. Wright African American Museum is one of countless developments he was responsible for throughout the city.

Mr. Hewitt enjoy a 20+ year friendship with Coleman A. Young and business relationships with Mx Fisher, Al Taubman, Judge Damon Keith, Tony Soave, Lee Iacocca and Frank D. Stella. He held personal friendships with Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Nelson Mandela and Pope John Paul. He was known as a man that never used his connections for personal gain but instead to help others on their path to success.



**Location:** Intersection of LaSalle Boulevard and Edison Street (District 5)

### Application materials include support from:

-Petitioner: Robert Hewitt

-Support: Robert Hewitt, son

**After the application was submitted**, HDAB received 2 additional letters of support during the 21-day comment period from: Jo Slaughter and Beverly Norrell-Aitch

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Ronald Hewitt** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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
- Community signature petition

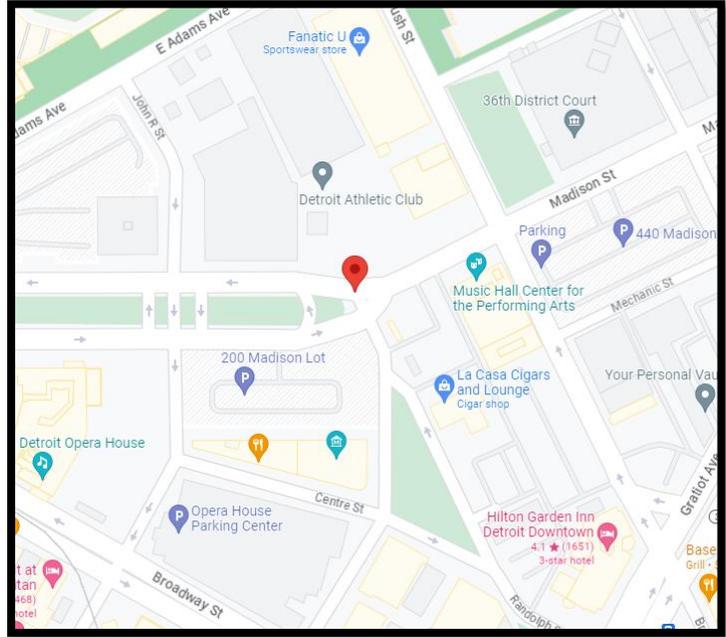
## Hooker, John Lee (10 of 23) | 2022 Rollover Application

### 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 (Districts 5 & 6 border)

### Application materials include support from:

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

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **John Lee Hooker** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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, 2023 and 2024 Cycles

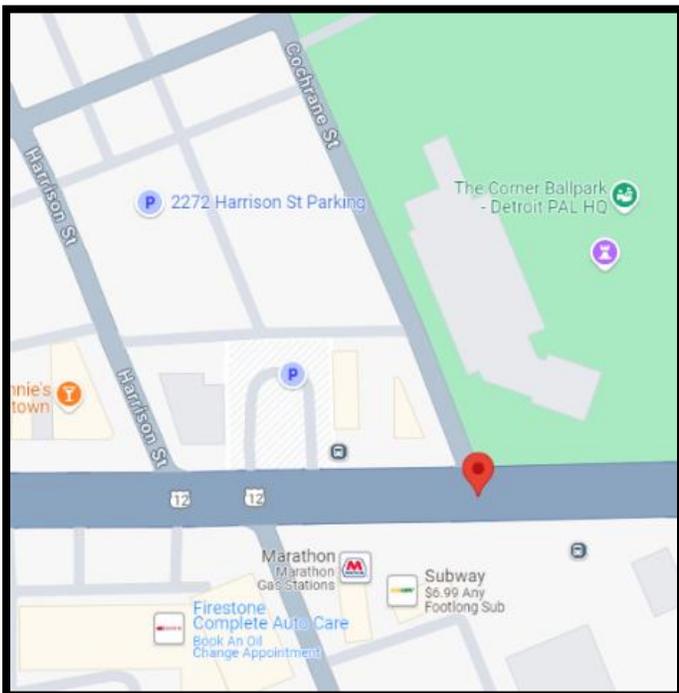
## Lane, Dick “Night Train” (11 of 23) | 2024 Rollover Application

### 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 75<sup>th</sup> 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 sign 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 materials include support from:

- 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

**After the application was submitted,** HDAB received 1 additional letter of support.

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Dick “Night Train” Lane** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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

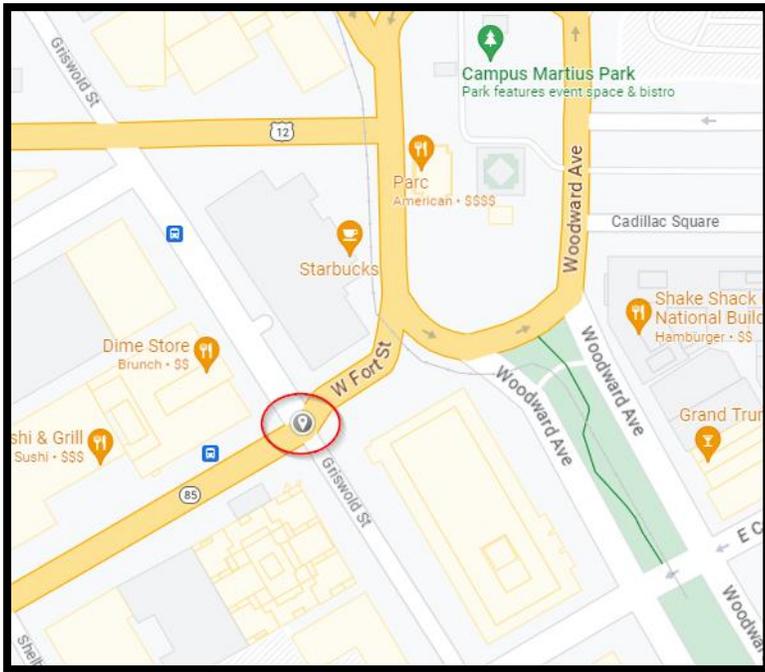
## Lee, Sr., Aubrey (12 of 23) | 2024 Rollover Application

### 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 materials include support from:

- Petitioners: Michael R. Tyson and Council Member Coleman A. Young II  
- Supporters: Jeane F. Lee, widower  
**After the application was submitted,** HDAB received 12 additional letters of support.

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Aubrey Lee Sr.** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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

## Liuzzo, Viola (13 of 23)

### Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Viola Liuzzo at the intersection of Pembroke Avenue & Mansfield Street is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

### Individual Contributions:

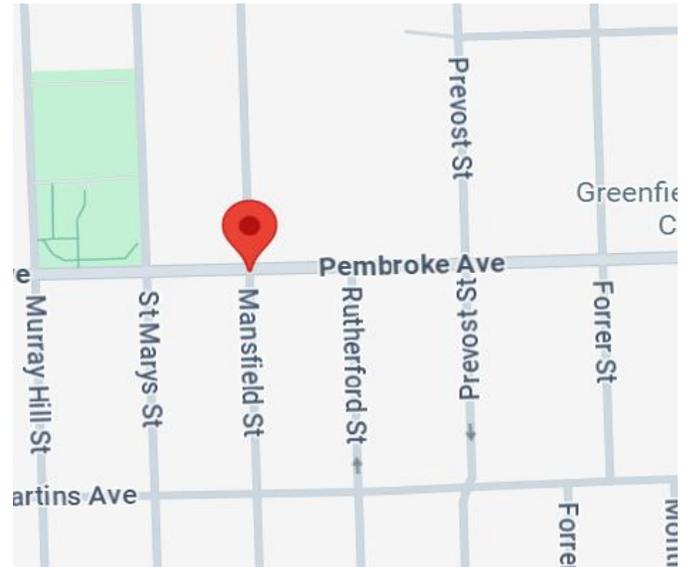
Viola Liuzzo, born April 11, 1925, was a white civil rights activist who grew up in poverty and witnessed racial injustices while attending segregated schools in the Jim Crow South. These experiences deeply shaped her commitment to social justice. As a young adult, she moved to Michigan, eventually settled in Detroit, where she became active in local civil rights organizations, including the Detroit chapter of the NAACP.

Liuzzo was a pre-nursing student at Wayne State University in Detroit and participated in the 1964 Civil Rights March in the city. Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech and the events of "Bloody Sunday" in Selma, Alabama, she traveled to Selma in March 1965 to volunteer for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and join the Selma to Montgomery marches. As Viola Liuzzo stated, this "...was everybody's fight." After the successful march, while driving activists between cities, she was murdered by members of the Ku Klux Klan on March 25, 1965.

Her funeral was held at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Detroit on March 30, 1965.

The service was attended by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., UAW President Walter Reuther, and Teamsters President Jimmy Hoffa among many others.

Viola Liuzzo's legacy is honored in Detroit through the Viola Liuzzo Playground and a civil rights memorial monument in the Greenfield neighborhood, both of which recognize her sacrifice and friendship with Sara Evans, who helped raise Liuzzo's children after her death. Her story remains a powerful symbol of courage and solidarity in the fight for civil rights.



**Location:** Intersection of Pembroke Avenue & Mansfield Street (District 2)

### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioner: Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway & Salwa Kinsey, Principal, Pembroke Academy
- Supporter: Anthony Liuzzo, son,

**After the application was submitted**, HDAB received an additional letter of support during the 21-day comment period from: Sharon Sexton, Historic Designation Advisory Board Member

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Viola Liuzzo** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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

## Loepp, Daniel J. (14 of 23) | 2024 Rollover Application

### 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 remained 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.

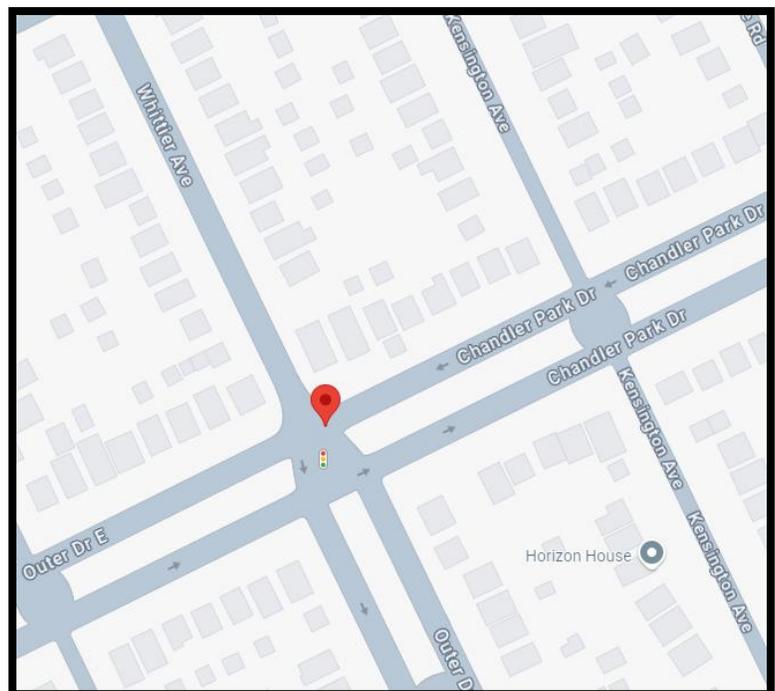
**Location:** Intersection of Whittier Avenue & Chandler Park Drive (District 4)

### Application materials include support from:

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

**After the application was submitted,** HDAB received 3 additional letters of support.

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Daniel J. Loepp** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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
- Rollover application from 2024 Cycle

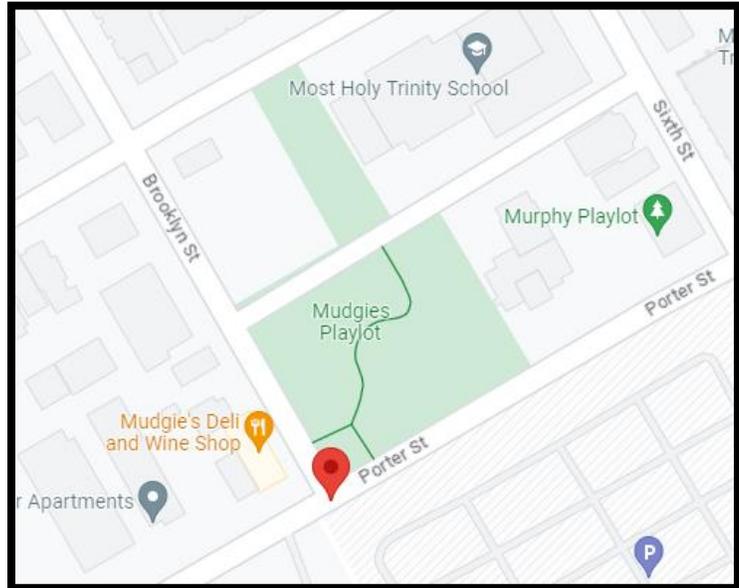
## Mudge, Gregory (15 of 23) | 2022 Rollover Application

### 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 materials include support from:

- 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

**After the application was submitted**, HDAB received 114 additional letters of support.

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Gregory Mudge** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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, 2023 and 2024 Cycles

## Owens, KEM (16 of 23)

### Request:

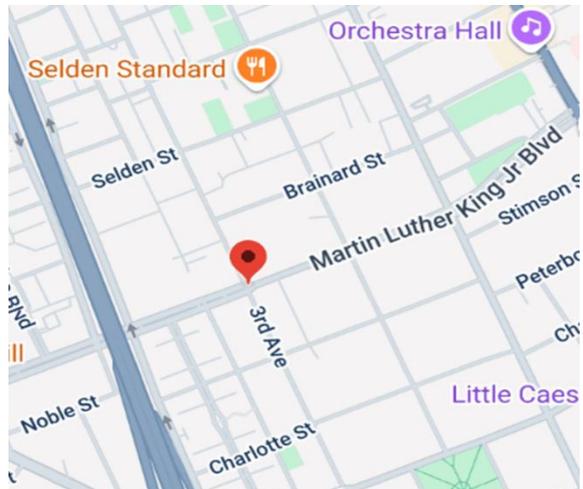
The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of KEM Owens at the intersection of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard & Third Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

### Individual Contributions:

Multi-GRAMMY®-nominated singer/songwriter and author KEM ascended from the shadows of addiction and homelessness on the streets of Detroit to become a legendary R&B pillar in Motown's rich musical history. For more than two decades, millions have embraced his music, drawn to his honest lyrics, distinctive voice, and magnetic stage presence. KEM's incredible transformation from a homeless young man battling addiction, to a beloved R&B superstar, is evident in the evolution of his music.

A pivotal moment arrived on KEM's 23rd birthday in 1990, as KEM sat by the Detroit River, nursing a bottle of malt liquor. A revelation struck him – a surrender to faith that would change the trajectory of his life and propel him toward his destiny of becoming one of music's most vital voices. Often likened to iconic artists such as Sam Cooke, Otis Redding, Al Jarreau, and Marvin Gaye, KEM's music is a testament to his innate storytelling prowess and lyrical depth.

His music is a captivating blend of sensuous, groove-laden melodies paired with his mesmerizing vocals, all enveloped in lyrics overflowing with love, emotion, and hope. KEM's philanthropic endeavors mirror his enduring spirit. He established Mack & Third, Inc., a non-profit organization committed to addressing fundamental human needs. Mack & Third supports initiatives such as homelessness, hunger, substance abuse, domestic violence, and more. His "Mack & Third LIVE" concert fundraiser and food drive has provided free meals and top-tier live music to thousands of homeless individuals. KEM's personal journey exemplifies the power of resilience, faith, and the healing force of music. From the darkest days of addiction and homelessness to the pinnacle of R&B success, he personifies triumph over adversity.



**Location:** Intersection of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard & Third Avenue (District 6)

### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioners: Council Member Mary Waters & Risa Balayem
- Council Member Letters of Support: Council President Mary Sheffield & Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **KEM Owens** for the establishment of a Secondary Street. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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

## Payne, Dr. John (17 of 23)

### Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Rev Dr. John Payne at the intersection of Burt Road & Fenkell Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

### Individual Contributions:

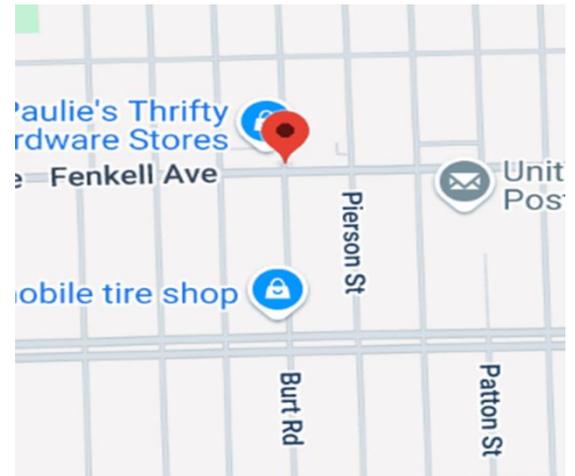
Rev. Dr. John Payne, Jr., was born February 19, 1923. He was a native of Florida and attended Bethune Cookman College there. Upon moving to Detroit, MI, he received a Bachelor of Arts from Great Lakes College. He also attended the Detroit Baptist Seminary, earning a degree in Theology. In May 1985, he received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from the International Theological Seminary in Florida.

From 1966-1970, Rev. Dr. Payne founded the Payne Athletic Association, which involved more than 1000 young men in basketball and baseball in the City of Detroit.

In November 1985, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Payne, Mt. Vernon church moved to its present site and established the Trinity Community Development Center. The center hosts community feeding program, an adult continuing education program, and a tutorial program.

In May 1988 Dr. Payne, hosted it first "May 1<sup>st</sup> Day". May 1<sup>st</sup> Day in an annual community event that conducts a parade, rides, food, games and community resources. Rev. Dr. Payne was known as a humble, God-fearing man who was always willing to give a helping hand to those in need. He always was willing to lend a listening ear to those who are troubled and always ready with words of encouragement to those who were discouraged.

Rev. Dr. Payne was married to Mary Margarett for 32 years and is the father of 4 sons, 2 daughters and grandfather of several grandchildren. In September 2003, he retired as Pastor of Mt. Vernon Missionary Baptist Church after serving 42 years.



**Location:** Intersection of Burt Road & Fenkell Avenue (District 1)

### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioner: Vanessa Williams and Mt. Vernon Missionary Baptist Church
- Supporter: Alberta Sullivan

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Rev. Dr. John Payne** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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
- Community signature petition

**Rose, Jalen (18 of 23)**

**Request:**

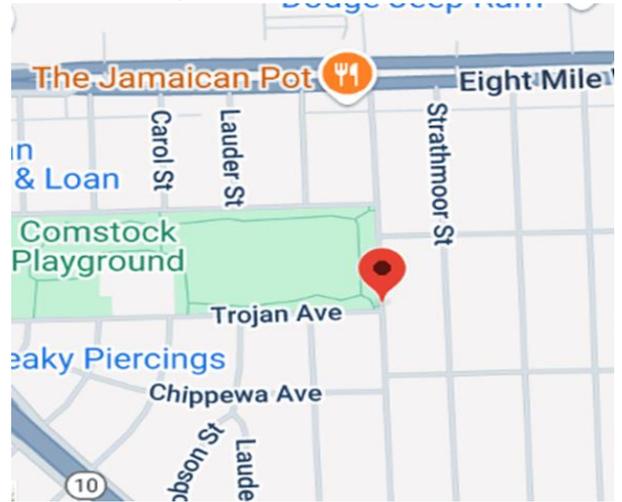
The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Jalen Rose at the intersection of Hubbell Avenue & Trojan Street is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

**Individual Contributions:**

Jalen Rose was born and raised in Detroit where he was part of the University of Michigan’s legendary “Fab Five”. In 1994, he was drafted in the first round and went on to have a successful 13-year NBA career. Since then, he spent 16-years as a lead ABC/ESPN analyst for a variety of network shows as well as partnered with the New York Post on Renaissance Man, a weekly column and podcast series. In 2015, he released a New York Times bestseller, Got to Give the People What They Want.

Mr. Rose is a philanthropist who donated his time, talent and treasure for decades. His most substantial outreach initiative to date is the establishment of the Jalen Rose Leadership Academy (JRLA). JRLA is an open enrollment, tuition free, public charter high school in the zip code where he grew up. Founded in 2011, JRLA currently serves over 400 high school students. The school’s mission is to empower all scholars to develop the strength of character, skills and knowledge needed to graduate from college or a post-secondary program.

In 2024, he received the NBA’s Bob Lanier Community Impact Award for his philanthropy. Mr. Rose is currently the Head of Talent/Athlete Relations for Fanatics Collectibles, serves as a volunteer Board Member for the National Basketball Players Association Foundation, the Founder/Board President for JRLA, CEO/Producer of Same Page Entertainment and Sport Analyst with NBC/TNT.



**Location:** Intersection of Hubbell Avenue & Trojan Street (District 2)

**Application materials include support from:**

- Petitioner: Council Member Fred Durhal, III
- Council Member Letters of Support: Council Member Mary Waters, Council Member Scott Benson, Council Member Coleman A. Young II & Council President Mary Sheffield

**After the application was submitted,** HDAB received 3 additional letters of support from: Dave Bing, Dennis Archer, Jr., and Kathy Carter

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Jalen Rose** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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
- 5 letters from City Council members for death date exception

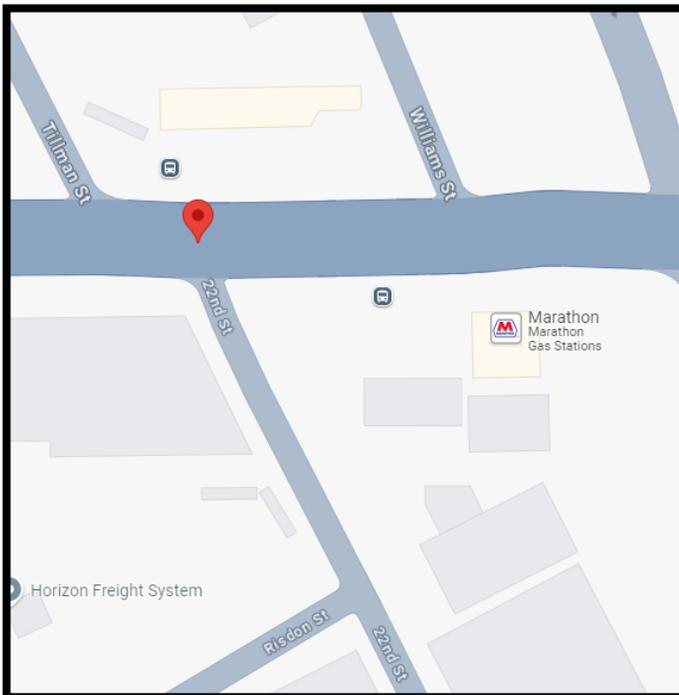
## Sinclair, John (19 of 23) | 2024 Rollover Application

### Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of John Sinclair at the intersection of 22<sup>nd</sup> 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, Bob 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 22<sup>nd</sup> Street & Michigan Avenue (District 6)

### Application materials include support from:

- 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 have reviewed the petition for **John Sinclair** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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
- Rollover application from 2024 Cycle

## Spina, Tony (20 of 23)

### Request:

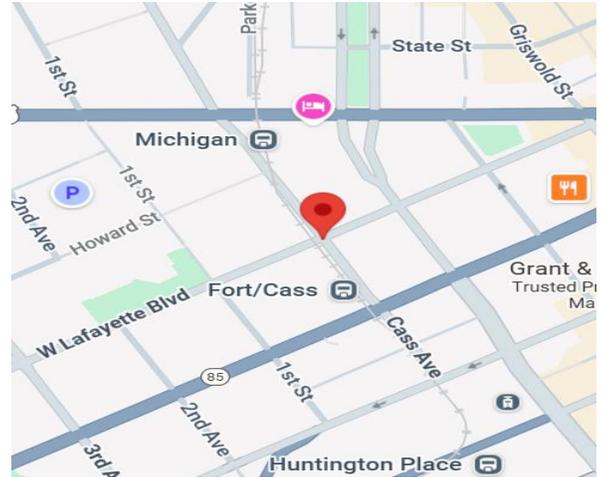
The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Tony Spina at the intersection of Lafayette Boulevard & Cass Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

### Individual Contributions:

Tony Spina Started at the Detroit Free Press in 1946 as a staff photographer. He was named chief photographer in 1952 and became a special assistant to the Managing Editor in 1986. He stayed with the paper until his retirement in 1989. He worked locally, nationally, and internationally to photograph the pivotal events and the people who shaped the latter half of the twentieth century. Widely regarded as one of the finest photojournalists of his time. Mr. Spina was the recipient of over 450 state, national and international awards for his photography, including the Sprague Memorial Award from the National Press Photographers Association and a Pulitzer Prize awarded to him and his Free Press team for its coverage of the Detroit Riot in 1967.

Mr. Spina was born in Detroit and graduated from Cass Technical High School. Then he worked his way through the Detroit Institute of Technology by taking pictures for Life Magazine and the national wire services.

As chief photographer's mate in the Navy during World War II, he photographed the invasion of North Africa in 1942 and the signing of the peace treaty with Japan aboard the USS Missouri in 1945. During the Korean conflict, he had a roving photographic assignment in the Pacific. Mr. Spina also photographed all the United States presidents from Harry Truman to Bill Clinton as well as four Popes. He was Knighted by Pope Paul VI.



**Location:** Intersection of Lafayette Boulevard & Cass Avenue (District 6)

### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioners: Council Member Coleman A. Young II and Nicole Avery Nichols
- Council Member Letters of Support: Council President Mary Sheffield, Council Member Scott Benson, & Council Member Gabriela Santiago- Romero
- Supporters: Julia Spina-Kilar, Kathryn Spina Giles & Costan Spina - Family Letter, Nicole Avery Nichols- Editor/Vice President-Detroit Free Press, Elizabeth Clemens - Wayne State University, David Lawrence-Former Editor of the Detroit Free Press, Thomas Kennedy-American Society of Media Photographers & Mort Crim-Retired Journalist

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Tony Spina** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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

## Starks, Andrew (21 of 23)

### Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Andrew L. Starks, Sr., at the intersection of St. Patrick Avenue & Gunston Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

### Individual Contributions:

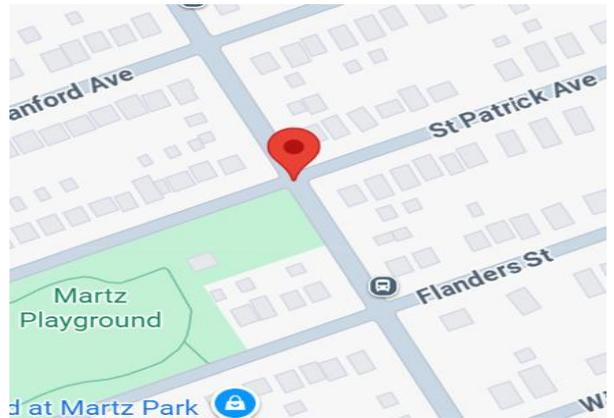
Andrew Lloyd Starks Sr. is a 100-year-old U.S. Army veteran, a lifelong Detroit resident, and a living legend in the 48205 community. Affectionately known as “Uncle Bunny,” Mr. Starks has spent a century leading a life defined by service, resilience, and generosity.

Following his honorable military service, Mr. Starks became one of the first Black pilots licensed at Detroit City Airport—a historic achievement that broke racial barriers in aviation. He went on to serve the City of Detroit for over 30 years and has remained a steadfast investor in the Ford Motor Company for more than four decades, demonstrating his lifelong commitment to economic empowerment and civic pride.

In the 1970s, as “White Flight” left many Detroit neighborhoods abandoned and blighted, Mr. Starks took it upon himself to safeguard the integrity of his block. He began purchasing vacant and deteriorating properties—ultimately acquiring numerous homes around him. For

decades, he sold these properties at below-market rates to renters aspiring to become homeowners, helping to foster stability, dignity, and generational wealth within the community.

Beyond his visionary approach to neighborhood revitalization, Mr. Starks is known for his everyday acts of care—mowing lawns, shoveling snow, and checking on neighbors well into his 90s. His selfless work was recently featured on Channel 4, which told the story of how he almost single-handedly saved his block from decline. Mr. Starks continues to embody the Spirit of Detroit. As he celebrated his 100th birthday on May 9, 2025.



**Location:** Intersection of St. Patrick Avenue & Gunston Avenue (District 4)

### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioner: Council Member Latisha Johnson
- Council Member Letters of Support: Council Member Mary Waters & Council Member Coleman A. Young, II
- Supporter: Eric Rhymes, nephew

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Andrew L. Starks, Sr.**, for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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

## Steinberg, Martha Jean “The Queen” (22 of 23)

### Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Martha Jean Steinberg at the intersection of Monica Street & Granddriver Avenue is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

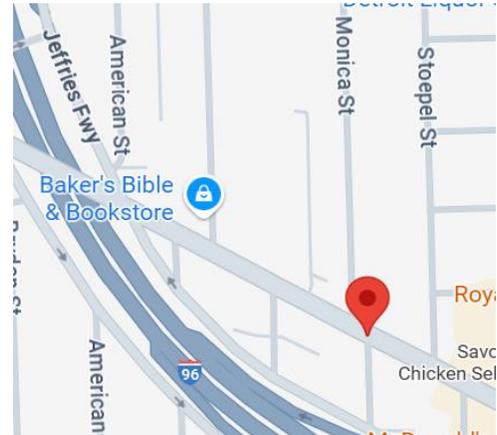
### Individual Contributions:

Born Matha Jean Jones on September 9, 1930, in Memphis, TN, she was raised with strong values of faith and hard work. Her parents enrolled her in a Catholic mission school, where she helped with chores to pay her way. She later married Jazz Musician Luther Steinberg, with whom she had 3 children.

While working as a nurse to support her family, she entered a 1954 contest for an on-air position at WDIA-AM. Although she placed second, she earned a weekend slot. She soon hosted WDIA-AM’s primetime evening show, Nite Spot and a second program, Premium Stuff. In 1963, she was recruited by the owners of WCHB 1440-AM in Inkster, MI. She quickly became hit and soon moved to WJLB 98-FM, one of Detroit’s first FM stations.

Martha Jean “The Queen” Steinberg was a radio personality whose career expanded over 46 years. She broke barriers as a pioneering R&B, DJ on the legendary Black station WDIA-AM in Memphis and later became both an inspirational on-air personality and radio station executive/owner in Detroit.

Mrs. Steinberg would use her voice and influence to uplift and mobilize generations—especially Detroit’s working-class and spiritually rooted communities. Her impact was so enduring that even after her death in 2000, her station WQBH 1400-AM aired repeats of her programming for several years. Mrs. Steinberg contributions were recognized with her induction into the Black Radio Hall of Fame in 1993 and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1998.



**Location:** Intersection of Monica Street & Granddriver Avenue (District 7)

### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioner: Council Member Coleman A. Young, II and Tonnia Miller
- Supporter: Trienere E. Steinberg, daughter & The members and supporters of The Order of the Fisherman Ministry

**After the application was submitted**, HDAB received a letter of support during the 21-day comment period from: Tonnie Miller.

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Martha Jean “The Queen” Steinberg** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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

## Watson, Dr. Rev JoAnn (23 of 23)

### Request:

The request to assign a Secondary Street Sign in honor of Rev. Dr. JoAnn Watson at the intersection of Linwood Street and Tuxedo Street is being forwarded to Your Honorable Body for your review and consideration.

### Individual Contributions:

Rev. Dr. JoAnn Watson was born and raised in Detroit, MI. She attended Detroit Central High School and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism from the University of Michigan and was later recognized as a "Distinguished Alumnus" and, in 1996, given the "Leonard F. Sain Esteemed Alumni Award". She was also awarded an honorary Doctorate in Humanities. Dr. Watson began her career in public service as the executive director of the Downtown Detroit YWCA. She would eventually rise to the position of assistant executive director of the National YWCA. From 1987 to 1990, she worked in the New York headquarters and directed their Office of Racial Justice. She later worked as the executive director of the Detroit NAACP becoming the first woman to lead the Detroit branch of the NAACP. In 2003, Watson won a Special Election called to fill a vacancy on the Detroit City Council. She would subsequently win re-election to City Council and served as City Council President Pro Tem.



Dr. Watson drafted over 5,000 pieces of legislation, which included national seat belt safety laws and her work and as a legislative architect co-drafting and coining the term "water affordability" with the late Honorable Maryann Mahaffey. At the time of her death, Rev. Dr. JoAnn Watson was still in service to her beloved Detroiters as a journalist and talk show host for "Wake Up Detroit" for over 25 years, an advisor to the Detroit Reparations Task Force, senior pastor at West Side Unity Church, and in a host of other roles. Rev. Dr. JoAnn Watson was a mother, visionary, stateswoman, freedom fighter, civil rights legend, and servant of the people. Rev. Dr. JoAnn Watson was an exceptional leader whose stalwart work ethic and service to the community was remarkable.

**Location:** Intersection of Linwood Street and Tuxedo Street (District 2)

### Application materials include support from:

- Petitioner: Council President Mary Sheffield and Monica Lewis-Patrick
- Council Member Letters of Support: Council President Pro-Tem James Tate, Council Member Latisha Johnson, Council Member Mary Waters
- Supporter: Maya K. Watson and Nefertari A. Nkenge-daughters

HDAB staff have reviewed the petition for **Rev. Dr. JoAnn Watson** for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner, staff have 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 - Dr. Watson passed on 7/10/2023
- 4 letters from City Council members for death date exception