

**City of Detroit**  
**CITY COUNCIL**

**HISTORIC DESIGNATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
218 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Detroit, Michigan 48226  
Phone: 313. 224.3487 Fax: 313. 224.4336  
e-mail: historic@detroitmi.gov

September 13, 2018

**HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL**

**RE:** On May 2, 2018, petition # 317, submitted to the City Clerk's Office requesting that the intersection Anthony Wayne Drive and West Warren be assigned the secondary street name Tapan Datta Boulevard.

The Historic Designation Advisory Board (HDAB) staff has reviewed the documentation submitted to the City Clerk's office by the petitioner for the establishment of a Secondary Street Sign. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner (see attachment) staff has determine that reasonable grounds has been provided and therefore has concluded that the petition meets the criteria for **Secondary Naming of Street in accordance with Article VII Sections 50-7-31 through Sections 50-7-50 of the 1984 Detroit City Code.**

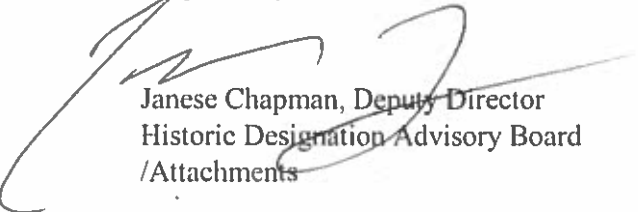
**Criteria**

As stated in Chapter 50 of the 1984 Detroit City Code, *Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places, Article VII, Opening, Closing, Extending, Widening, Vacating, Naming and Renaming of Streets and Assigning Secondary Names to Streets.* A secondary street name designation may be sought to recognize a person who achieved prominence as a result of his or her significant, position, contributions to the City of Detroit, State of Michigan, the United States of America, or the international community.

1. Sites, buildings, structures where cultural, social, spiritual, economic, political, architectural history of the community, city, state or nation is particularly reflected or exemplified.
2. Sites, buildings, structures, which are identified with historic personages or with important events in the community, city, state or national history.

Staff is available to answer any questions and or concerns you may have.

Respectfully submitted,



Janese Chapman, Deputy Director  
Historic Designation Advisory Board  
/Attachments

**RESOLUTION**

**BY COUNCIL MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_**

Resolved, That a public hearing will be held by the Detroit City Council Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee in the Committee of the Whole Room, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center on **Thursday, \_\_\_\_\_, 2018 at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m.**, for the purpose of considering petition No. 317 requesting the secondary street name in honor of Professor Tapan Datta, retired professor of engineering from Wayne State University in the area of Anthony Wayne Drive and W. Warren Avenue to "Tapan Datta Doulevard."

# City of Detroit

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Janice M. Winfrey  
City Clerk

Vivian A. Hudson  
Deputy City Clerk

## DEPARTMENTAL REFERENCE COMMUNICATION

*Wednesday, May 02, 2018*

*To: The Department or Commission Listed Below*

*From: Janice M. Winfrey, Detroit City Clerk*

---

The following petition is herewith referred to you for report and recommendation to the City Council.

In accordance with that body's directive, kindly return the same with your report in duplicate within four (4) weeks.

---

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION    LEGISLATIVE POLICY DIVISION  
PUBLIC LIGHTING DEPARTMENT  
DPW - CITY ENGINEERING DIVISION    PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**317**    *Wayne State University, request to install a secondary street sign at the intersection of Anthony Wayne Drive and Warren Avenue in honor of Tapan Datta Boulevard.*

#317

Additional Info.:

NAME: Tapan K. Datta, Ph.D., P.E.

OFFICE ADDRESS:  
5050 Anthony Wayne Drive  
EDC, Room #0504  
Detroit, MI 48202

HOME ADDRESS:  
1830 Lone Pine Road  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

OFFICE PHONE: (313) 577-9154

HOME PHONE: (248) 626-5769

---

DEPARTMENT/COLLEGE: Department of Civil and Environment Engineering

PRESENT RANK & DATE OF RANK: Professor since 1979

WSU APPOINTMENT HISTORY:

Sept. 1973 – Present	Faculty of Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Wayne State University
1973	Assistant Professor of Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Wayne State University
1976	Associate Professor of Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Wayne State University
1978	Acting Chairman of Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Wayne State University
1979 - 1983	Chairman and Professor of Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Wayne State University
1979 - Present	Professor of Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Wayne State University

### Dr. Datta's Contributions to the City of Detroit

Teaching is a noble profession, therefore all teachers and professors are to be respected. However, there are some teachers and professors who go beyond their call of duty and contribute a lot to the society. These individuals need to be recognized and honored.

Dr. Tapan Datta, Professor of Civil Engineering at Wayne State University, is one such professor who not only did research with international standing and impact, and motivated and nurtured his students to become outstanding engineers and managers, but contributed significantly to the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan. So, honoring Dr. Datta is not only honoring the Wayne State University but also the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan.

Dr. Tapan Datta developed several safety and streetscape projects that benefited the City and its residents in a very positive way.

Some of his contributions in the area of road safety that helped the City of Detroit residents in particular are:

1. Updating the UD-10 Crash forms – State of Michigan adopted this form and all the crashes are currently being recorded using this form. This improved the road crash reporting system which helped in identifying the high crash locations. MDOT, SEMCOG and all road agencies use this data to implement the countermeasures to reduce the number of crashes and crash severities. The residents of the City of Detroit, along with those living in the jurisdiction of many local road agencies, and ultimately the citizens of the State of Michigan, have immensely benefited by the safety and health protection afforded by this initiative.
2. All Red Phase – Dr. Datta was instrumental in introducing the All Red phase (few seconds of red time for all approaches of the signal) in the signal timing for all the City of Detroit signals. This significantly reduced the T-Bone type of crashes resulting in saving many lives and/or reducing the severity of the crashes.

Dr. Datta was instrumental in the development of two streetscape projects, which are appreciated by both the City and WSU residents and visitors alike for achieving both safety and beautification of the roadway environment. These are:

1. The Anthony Wayne Drive Streetscape Project, which involved the preparation of a proposal to the Federal Highway Administration, through the Michigan Department of Transportation, for the funding of 80 percent of the construction cost and WSU funding the balance (20 percent) of the construction cost, cost of engineering, construction supervision and management. This work resulted in attracting a lot of retail stores into the area (expected to increase in number with the completion of the construction of the new campus dormitory building), while also doubling the on street parking capacity within the project boundaries. The City of Detroit Parking Department installed parking meters in this area and is getting additional revenues out of them.

2. The Trumbull Avenue Streetscape Project, which included improvements to the roadway segment from Warren Avenue to near West Grand Boulevard. This project required negotiations with two local stakeholders in addition to the City of Detroit. Similarly, this project was funded by FHWA for 80 percent of the construction cost, and the balance (20 percent) of the construction cost, as well as cost of engineering, construction supervision and management, was funded by WSU and the Henry Ford Health System (a local stakeholder).

Over the years, Dr. Datta has assisted numerous local homeowner associations in performing their own traffic studies in order to provide the necessary data to the City Traffic Engineering Department to request traffic calming and safety treatments within their neighborhoods. His valuable assistance to homeowners was done, free of charge, to make various Detroit neighborhoods better places to live. One good example is the Palmer Woods neighborhood is where he helped them implement some traffic calming/circulations measures at no cost to the City.

In summary, Dr. Tapan Datta is an extraordinary professor who, in addition to be a distinguished researcher and educator, put the names of the City of Detroit and State of Michigan's in the international arena of Traffic and Transportation. At the same time, his services helped the City of Detroit citizens significantly and will continue to do so in the future.

Petition number:

## City of Detroit Secondary Street Sign Application

In order to honor people who have made significant contribution to our community, the City of Detroit has provided the opportunity for those to be honored on Secondary Street Signs per Ordinance Chapter 50, Sections 50-7-21 through Sections 50-7-50. The petitioner is required to complete the said application for consideration of erecting a Secondary Street Sign. Required documentation includes 2/3rds of residents and businesses within 300 linear ft of the proposed signage are in approval and a written statement explaining the significance of the honoree, along with a letter of concurrence from either the honoree's surviving or living descendants, if applicable. A Six-hundred sixty-five dollar (\$665) fee must be paid to the order of the City of Detroit Treasurer prior to submission. If sign is approved, the petitioner will be required to pay two-hundred dollars (\$200) per sign to the Department of Public Works street fund prior to installation. Please return all supporting documentation to the Office of the Detroit City Clerk.

### I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Please type or print information clearly:

Contact name: Patrick Lindsey

Name of the Organization: Wayne State University

Mailing Address: 4092 Faculty Administration Building, 656 W. Kirby

City/State/Zip Code: Detroit, MI 48202

Phone: (313) 577-4228 E-Mail: patrick.lindsey@wayne.edu

If registered as a non-profit, please indicate your non-profit status identification number and attach a copy of the certificate. Non-profit identification number: \_\_\_\_\_

**II. SECONDARY STREET NAME INFORMATION**

**(a) What will the name on the Secondary Street Sign be?**

Tapan Datta Boulevard

**(b) Where will the sign be located?**

Intersection of Anthony Wayne Drive and Warren Avenue

*(Please list the intersection where the signs are being requested to be installed.)*

**(c) Proposed installation date of the sign?**

June 1, 2018

*(A petition for a secondary street name shall be filed with the office of the City Clerk not less than one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the proposed date of installation of the secondary street sign(s).)*

**(d) Purpose of Secondary Street Sign?**

To honor Dr. Tapan Datta.

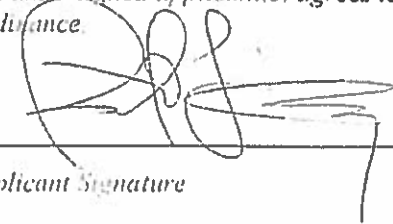
*(Please attached a written narrative describing the honoree who has achieved prominence as a result of his or her significant, positive contributions to the City of Detroit, State of Michigan, the United States of America, or the international community.)*

**(e) Is this located on a Michigan State Trunk Line or Wayne County Road (See attached for State Trunk Lines and Wayne County Roads)? YES/NO**

**III. CERTIFICATION**

*I certify that the information contained in the foregoing application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the rules and regulations governing the proposed Secondary Street Sign. I understand that this application is made subject to the rules and regulations as outlined in ordinance Chapter 50, Sections 50-7-21 through Sections 50-7-50. Applicant agrees to comply with all other requirements of the City, County, State and any other applicable entity, which pertains to Secondary Street Signs.*

*The undersigned applicant(s) agrees to abide by the provides set by the City of Detroit and Sign Ordinance.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

April 19, 2018

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





# WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

## Government and Community Affairs

April 19, 2018

Detroit City Council  
2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1340  
Detroit, MI 48226

RE: Request for a Secondary Street Name Sign for Dr. Tapan Datta

Dear Members of the City Council:

This letter comes to request your honorable body a secondary street name sign on behalf of Dr. Tapan Datta. Dr. Datta has been an exemplary professor, an ardent researcher and a committed traffic safety proponent.

Dr. Datta has been a Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Wayne State University (WSU) for the past 45 years. During this time, he was the advisor for numerous Ph.D., Masters, and Bachelors students. One of his legacies is having taken lot of interest in not only making sure that his students learn the concepts of the Traffic and Transportation Engineering field, but also understand their social responsibilities as professionals. It is mainly because of Dr. Datta's efforts that WSU built a nationally renowned Transportation Program, which produced outstanding graduates. Many of his past students are in key positions today in leading international, national, state and city-level agencies. It is also important to mention that many of his students work for the City of Detroit.

Dr. Datta has directed countless research projects sponsored by FHWA, NHTSA, OSHA, MDOT, MOHSP, AAA, and other public and private agencies. During his entire time at WSU, he was actively involved in a variety of research projects dealing with highway safety, traffic operations, traffic signal systems, evaluation, GIS, ITS and other advanced technologies, construction work zone safety, human factors, risk management, transit systems, and many others. He is a Fellow Life member of ITE and an organizational member of TRB. He is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Michigan.

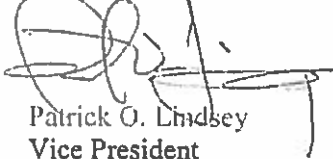
Dr. Datta is a highly committed Traffic Safety proponent. He was instrumental in developing the UD-10 crash form (traffic crash recording form used by the police) and conducted several seminars across the state to explain the importance of recording it correctly. He has also instilled a strong commitment to traffic safety in his students. Dr. Datta has received many awards and recognitions from the university and professional community. Based on his academic and scholarly contributions to the field of Traffic and Transportation Engineering, he received in 2002 the prestigious "Arthur Carr" Professorship Award from the College of Engineering at WSU, followed by the College of Engineering Excellence in Teaching Awards in 2003-2004 and 2006-2007. Dr. Datta was the recipient of the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from the WSU College of Engineering being conducted to Hall of Fame.

Dr. Datta received the National Work Zone Safety Awareness Award at the Traffic Management and Work Zone Safety Conference in Orlando, FL. Also, in March of 2009, Dr. Datta was appointed to the "Construction Safety Standards Commission" by Governor Granholm of the State of Michigan, and he served as a Commissioner until December 2012.

This secondary street name sign is not only honoring Dr. Datta but honoring WSU, the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan. Therefore I, on behalf of WSU, am asking the honorable council to please approve a secondary street name sign honoring this great man that would be placed at the intersection of Anthony Wayne Drive and Warren Avenue.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (313) 577-4228. We are excited to honor such an accomplished man who had contributed so much to our society.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick O. Lindsey', written over a horizontal line.

Patrick O. Lindsey  
Vice President  
Government & Community Affairs

2018-05-02

**317**

**317**     *Petition of Wayne State University,  
request to install a secondary street  
sign at the intersection of Anthony  
Wayne Drive and Warren Avenue in  
honor of Tapan Datta Boulevard.*

---

**REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENT(S)**

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION    LEGISLATIVE POLICY  
DIVISION  
PUBLIC LIGHTING DEPARTMENT  
DPW - CITY ENGINEERING DIVISION    PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



**Patrick O. Lindsey**  
Vice President

July 17, 2018

**TO:** To Whom It May Concern:

**RE:** Petition 317

This letter is to express Wayne State University's full support of the petition submitted to the City of Detroit to install a secondary street sign at Anthony Wayne Drive and Warren Ave. in honor of Dr. Tapan Datta.

Dr. Datta, Professor of Civil Engineering at Wayne State University, has conducted extensive research that has greatly impacted the city of Detroit and the state of Michigan, and has garnered international standing. His work on traffic safety enhancements and streetscape designs have reduced traffic accidents and injuries, and fostered business attraction in various areas around our region.

He has motivated and nurtured his students to become outstanding engineers and managers. He also encourages his students to follow his example and engage with citizens in our community and assist in addressing traffic safety and design issues. Dr. Datta represents the best of Wayne State University, and his contributions to his students, fellow faculty members, the city and the state. His excellence contributes greatly toward WSU being the preeminent public urban research institution in the country.

This year, the University observes its Sesquicentennial, celebrating 150 years of positive impact in the city of Detroit through creating and advancing knowledge, educating students, employment, research, and community and civic engagement. It is fitting that Dr. Datta also be honored for his contributions and achievements during this season of celebration.

We strongly recommend that the City of Detroit approve this request to honor the accomplishments and achievements of Dr. Tapan Datta.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patrick O. Lindsey".