

INTRODUCED: March 12, 2018

AN ORDINANCE No. 2018-104

To designate the 1500 block of Williamsburg Road in honor of Mary Lou Decossaux.

Patron – Vice President Newbille

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: MAR 26 2018 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, in 2005, with the help of community residents, artists, and volunteers from building trade unions, Mary Lou Decossaux founded the Neighborhood Resource Center, Inc. to provide the Fulton Hill neighborhood of the city of Richmond with a community center offering an array of preschool, after-school, and adult classes and activities that continue to fill an educational and cultural void in the Fulton Hill community; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to memorialize Mary Lou Decossaux's contributions to the civic well-being of the city of Richmond and the Commonwealth of Virginia as an advocate for community service by designating the 1500 block of Williamsburg Road in her honor; and

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: MAR 26 2018 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

WHEREAS, because this designation is honorary only, the provisions of sections 8-7 through 8-10 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended, do not apply to the designation made hereby or to any signs erected pursuant to this ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. **Designation of Street Block for Honorary Name.** The 1500 block of Williamsburg Road shall be designated in honor of Mary Lou Decossaux, pursuant to this ordinance.

§ 2. **Effect of Designation.** The designation of the street block made pursuant to this ordinance shall be honorary only, shall not replace the existing name of the street, and shall have no effect on the address of any property with an address on the designated street block. The sole effect of designation pursuant to this ordinance shall be to authorize the placement of commemorative signs in accordance with this ordinance memorializing the designation in honor of the named person.

§ 3. **Administration of Ordinance.** The Department of Public Works shall implement this ordinance by installing, as soon as practicable after the adoption of this ordinance, and maintaining commemorative signs in accordance with this section. The commemorative signs shall be clearly distinct from the street signs used to identify the street block in question such that a reasonable person could not conclude that the commemorative signs reflect the actual name of the street. The commemorative signs shall be affixed to the street sign for the street designated in section 1 of this ordinance located at each end of the street block designated in section 1 of this ordinance and shall bear the name of the person set forth in section 1 of this ordinance.

§ 4. **Effective Date.** This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Ordinance/Resolution Request

RECEIVED

JAN 12 2018

OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY

TO Allen Jackson, City Attorney

THROUGH Lou Ali, Council Chief of Staff *MLB a Behalf*

FROM Steven Taylor, Council Policy Analyst *ST*

COPY Cynthia Newbille, 7th District Council Member
 Sam Patterson, 7th District Liaison
 Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney
 Meghan Brown, Council Deputy Chief of Staff *MLB*

DATE January 12, 2018

PAGE/s 1 of 2

TITLE Honorary Designation of the 1500th block of Williamsburg Road in honor of Mary Lou Decossaux

This is a request for the drafting of an **Ordinance** **Resolution**

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

Newbille

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Land Use, Housing & Transportation

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

The patron requests that legislation be drafted for Council's consideration that designates the 1500th block of Williamsburg Road, between Montgomery Street and Salem Street, in honor of the late, Ms. Mary Lou Decossaux.

BACKGROUND

The City has occasionally made designations of City blocks in honor of persons who have contributed to the Richmond's civic well-being and history.

Ms. Decossaux is the founder of the Neighborhood Resources Center (NRC) and has previously served as its Executive Director. She has also worked to fight crime and to improve the streetscapes in East End of the City.

Ms. Decossaux has worked tirelessly to organize volunteers and to start educational programs at the NRC. The NRC has housed many different programs, including: GED programs, art, theatre, girl scouts, dance, martial arts, preschool, and a recording studio. The NRC, in large part due to Ms. Decossaux's leadership, has become an integral part of the Fulton community.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact Yes No

Budget Amendment Required Yes No

Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact \$ N/A

Note: Costs of signage erecting these honors are absorbed in the regular operations of the Department of Public Works.

Attachment/s Yes No