

INTRODUCED: September 12, 2016

AN ORDINANCE No. 2016-223

To designate the 2300, 2400, 2500 and 2600 blocks of Whitcomb Street, between Sussex Street and Anniston Street, in honor of Annie Giles.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patron – Ms. Robertson, President Mosby, and  
Ms. Newbille

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved as to form and legality  
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: SEPT 26 2016 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, Annie Giles, a native of the city of Richmond, has been an activist on behalf of her Whitcomb Court neighbors almost from the time she moved to that community with her family; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Giles, whose concerns have ranged from successful fights against crime to better health care and day care for the children of the community, has brought about many positive changes in the Whitcomb Court neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, when her granddaughter was not accepted by a public early childhood development program, Ms. Giles founded the cooperative preschool Parent-Tot Program; and

AYES:            9            NOES:            0            ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED:    SEPT 26 2016    REJECTED: \_\_\_\_\_    STRICKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, initiated to help the children in Whitcomb Court, the Parent-Tot Program, which spread to six other housing developments, earned Ms. Giles an award from the Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Giles also volunteered her time to register voters and directed the soup kitchen at Gospel Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, in appreciation for Ms. Giles's exemplary life of service, the City of Richmond desires to memorialize Ms. Giles's contributions to the civic well-being of the city of Richmond as a leader in the efforts to educate children, feed the hungry and fight crime in the city of Richmond by designating the street blocks within which she lived and served in her honor; and

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 2300, 2400, 2500 and 2600 blocks of Whitcomb Street, between Sussex Street and Anniston Street, shall be designated in honor of Annie Giles pursuant to this ordinance.

§ 2. **Effect of Designation.** The designation of the street blocks 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 blocks. 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 blocks 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 blocks 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

**TO** Allen Jackson, City Attorney

**THROUGH** Lou Ali, Council Chief of Staff *LA*

**FROM** Steven Taylor, Council Policy Analyst *ST*

**COPY** Ellen Robertson 6th District Council Member  
Kiya Stokes, 6th District Liaison  
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney  
Meghan Brown, Council Interim Deputy Chief of Staff

**DATE** September 14, 2016

**PAGE/s** 1 of 2

**TITLE** Honorary Designation of 2300<sup>th</sup>, 2400<sup>th</sup>, 2500<sup>th</sup>, and 2600<sup>th</sup> blocks of Whitcomb Street between Sussex Street and Anniston Street in honor of Annie Giles.

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

**REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON**

Robertson

**SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE**

Land Use, Housing & Transportation

**ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY**

The patron requests that legislation be drafted for Council's consideration that designates the 2300<sup>th</sup>, 2400<sup>th</sup>, 2500<sup>th</sup>, and 2600<sup>th</sup> blocks of Whitcomb Street between Sussex Street and Anniston Street in honor of Annie Giles.

**BACKGROUND**

The City has occasionally made designations of City blocks in honor of persons who have contributed to Richmond's civic well-being. The Annie Giles is such a person.

Ms. Giles was the founder of the Parent-Tot pre-school program which served the families of Richmond's housing developments. Ms. Giles founded the cooperative program after her grand-daughter was not accepted into an early childhood development program. The Parent-Tot program grew to serve hundreds of people and earned recognition from the Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services. Additionally, Ms. Giles volunteered to register voters and directed the soup kitchen at Gospel Baptist Church.

