

INTRODUCED: October 12, 2020

AN ORDINANCE No. 2020-224

To rename the street in the city of Richmond known as Confederate Avenue as “Laburnum Park Boulevard.”

Patrons – Ms. Gray and Vice President Hilbert

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: NOV 9 2020 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, the City Council has from time to time found it appropriate to name or rename City-owned streets and facilities for historic and honorific reasons; and

WHEREAS, upon the information and belief of Council, the street known as Confederate Avenue was named in honor of the Confederate States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that the name Confederate Avenue is not reflective of contemporary culture; and

WHEREAS, sections 8-7 through 8-10 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended, generally prescribe a process for the renaming of City facilities, including streets such as Confederate Avenue; and

AYES: 8 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: NOV 9 2020 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

WHEREAS, the Council believes that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Richmond that the street located in the city of Richmond and known as Confederate Avenue be renamed as “Laburnum Park Boulevard” without the necessity for strict compliance with the requirements set forth in sections 8-7 through 8-10 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended;

NOW, THEREFORE,


THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That, notwithstanding the provisions of sections 8-7 through 8-10 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended, or any other law to the contrary, the street located in the city of Richmond and known as “Confederate Avenue” be and is hereby renamed as “Laburnum Park Boulevard.”

§ 2. That, in order to effectuate the provisions of section 1 of this ordinance, the Chief Administrative Officer shall (i) cause the appropriate City agency to prepare and erect signs appropriately marking “Laburnum Park Boulevard,” (ii) request that all City agencies note such renaming in the records maintained by each such agency, and (iii) take all other appropriate actions to effectuate the renaming of Confederate Avenue as “Laburnum Park Boulevard.”

§ 3. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

**A TRUE COPY:
TESTE:**

Handwritten signature of Amelia D. Reed in black ink.

City Clerk



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Ordinance/Resolution Request

TO Haskell Brown, Interim Richmond City Attorney
Richmond Office of the City Attorney

THROUGH Lawrence R. Anderson
Council Chief of Staff

FROM William E. Echelberger, Jr, Council Budget Analyst

COPY Kimberly B. Gray, 2nd District Representative
Christopher A. Hilbert, 3rd District Representative
Tabrica C. Rentz, Interim Deputy City Attorney
Meghan K. Brown, Deputy Council Chief of Staff
Craig K. Bieber, 2nd District Liaison
Lisa F. Townes, 3rd District Liaison

DATE August 6, 2020

PAGE/s 1 of 2

TITLE Rename Confederate Avenue

RECEIVED
By Barbara Fore at 9:48 am, Aug 11, 2020

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

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

Kimberly B. Gray, 2nd District
Representative
Christopher A. Hilbert, 3rd District
Representative

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Land Use, Housing, and Transportation

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

The patron requests an ordinance to rename Confederate Avenue as Laburnum Park Avenue.

- The requested ordinance shall be effective upon passage.
- The Department of Public Works shall make such signage changes as are appropriate to reflect the new name as soon as practical.

BACKGROUND

Summary:

- Confederate Avenue is named for the Confederate States of America.
- The patrons believe that the name change is a positive unifying action that is reflective of all Richmonders.
- Confederate Avenue consists of 62 households within four blocks bordered by Brook and Hermitage Roads.
- In March 2019 a committee was formed to evaluate and pursue a name change.

- Among other outreach efforts, the committee undertook two surveys:
 - Survey #1: 75% of all households and 85% of those who voted expressed support for changing the name of the street. Note: 2 houses are vacant: 1603, 1609
 - Survey #2: With a 90% participation rate on a ranked choice voting survey of 11 proposed street names, the top 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice winner was Laburnum Park Boulevard.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact Yes No

Budget Amendment Required Yes No

Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact

Signage costs are usually covered in the operating budgets of DPW.

Several entities may be impacted including, but not necessarily limited to, Voter Registration, Police, Fire, the Ambulance Authority, US Postal Service, the Planning District, the Assessor, GIS Systems, VITA, the Department of Information Technology, Verizon, Comcast, various mapping companies, the Street Name Clearing House, DPU and DPW.

Attachment/s Yes No

Richmond City Council Ordinance/Resolution Request Form/updated 10.5.2012 /sjs

Confederate Avenue Street Name Change: Neighborhood Process

Confederate Avenue consists of 62 households within four blocks bordered by Brook and Hermitage Roads. Over the years, many residents have informally discussed the possibility of changing the street name to something more welcoming and inclusive. This effort became more organized in March 2019, when a committee formed to evaluate and pursue a name change. Each block is represented on this committee. In addition to committee work, block representatives have participated in separate block meetings and face-to-face conversations to engage and inform neighbors about the project and process. This included direct outreach to households who opposed a name change and/or who criticized the committee's work. In addition, block representatives followed up with neighbors who did not participate in the surveys and those not comfortable with responding online. Over the entire period, with several flyers distributed street-wide, along with two distinct surveys of the entire street, the committee encouraged feedback from everyone.

The survey results show the following:

Survey #1, dated June 16, 2020 – 75% of all households (45 out of 60 families) and 85% of those who voted (45 out of 52) support changing the name of the street. *Note: 2 houses are vacant: 1603, 1609*

Survey #2 dated July 6, 2020 – With a 90% participation rate (56 out of 62 households) on a ranked choice voting survey of 11 proposed street names, the top 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice winner is Laburnum Park Boulevard, recognizing the prominence of our street as a central boulevard in the Laburnum Park Historic District.

These survey results demonstrate strong, street-wide support to change the name of Confederate Avenue. Thus, we respectfully request that our Council representatives, the Honorable Kimberly Gray and the Honorable Chris Hilbert, sponsor an ordinance to legally change the street name from Confederate Avenue to Laburnum Park Boulevard.

The following timeline and documents capture the project activities and discussions since March 2019:

Timeline of efforts:

WHEN	WHAT	DOCUMENTATION
2/13/19	Initial reach out to the Chief Admin. Officer	1. Email dated 2/13/19
2/14/19	Initial reach out to 3 rd District Councilman	2. Email dated 2/14/19
3/7/19	DPW Guidelines and City Code from Brian Copple	3. Email dated 3/7/19
3/8/19	Connection with 3 rd District Liaison, Lisa Townes	4. Email dated 3/8/19
7/5-6/19	Invitations to 3-4 neighbors in each block for initial conversation	5. 1 email example (sent 7/5/19)
7/16/19	1 st Committee Meeting (6-7 pm at 1400 Confederate Ave)	6. See Next Steps: Block Conversations Talking Points
7/16 – 8/23/19	Block Conversations by block committee members	
11/19	Flyer distributed to all 62 households	7. 1 st Street Name Change Flyer
12/19 – 1/20	Continued neighborhood conversations (1 on 1's and block meetings)	
2/8/20	2 nd Committee Meeting (2-3 pm at 1400 Confederate Ave)	8. Email invitation dated 2/8/20 and 2/16 action items
6/3/20	Reengagement of name change effort	
6/16/20	Distributed flyer to neighbors to vote for the change via 1 st survey	9. See Flyer dated 6/16 with update and survey link and copy of survey
6/29/20	Distributed flyer with Survey Results and Next Steps	10. See Flyer with results and next steps disseminated 6/29-7/1
7/6/20	Disseminated flyer -- via email and hard copies -- to neighbors for 2 nd survey to select a new street name	11. Email Draft for Final Survey Flyer and Final Name Survey Flyer hard copy and copy of survey
7/17/20	Distributed New Name Selection Survey Results	12. Email to block committee members and New Name Results Flyer
7/21/20	Request with documentation made via email to 2 nd and 3 rd District Councilpersons to change our street name	

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

1. Email dated 2/13/19

From: Gwen Corley Creighton gwen@ccassociatesllc.com
Subject: Counsel, Advice re: Street Name Change
Date: February 13, 2019 at 9:07 AM
To: selena.cuffee-glenn@richmondgov.com
Bcc: Garland Creighton garland@garlandcreightoncpa.com

Good morning, Selena!

Hope you are well! I need your guidance:

I've talked to a few of our neighbors about requesting a name change to our street: Confederate Ave. (especially those of us who have lived here a few decades). We've looked at the city's procedures as well as doing a little research about historic districts like ours: The Laburnum Park District. Before we move forward with creating a new name and getting all of our neighbors to agree, we want to be efficient about the process. Thus, my reach out to you: will you direct us to whom we should talk so that we are following the correct and most expedient process?

Thank you for any names and contact information you can provide. Appreciate you much!

Be well and live graciously,

Gwen



"Strategic positioning for individual and organizational success"
1202 Confederate Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23227-4402
Phone: 804.257.5999
Fax: 804.257.7331

2. Email Dated 2/14/19

From: Gwen Corley Creighton gwen@ccassociatesllc.com
Subject: Desire to Rename Our Street
Date: February 14, 2019 at 10:42 AM
To: Chris Hilbert chris.hilbert@richmondgov.com
Cc: Jill and Jimi Dimitri jill@vplc.org, Garland Creighton garland@garlandcreightoncpa.com
Bcc: Cynthia Newbille cynthia.newbille@richmondgov.com

Good morning, Chris!

It's been quite some time since we've interacted and hope you are well!

There's been some conversations in our neighborhood about beginning the process of renaming our street, Confederate Ave. And, in light of the political and racial climate we are not in, this desire has heightened.

Besides our doing a little research on the process, we reached out to Selena this week to get contact information from those with that responsibility to insure that we are well informed about the proper as well as most efficient and expedient process to pursue. In reaching out to her, she encouraged us to also inform our Council Rep of our intent. Thus, this reach out to you, Chris. Whatever counsel, insight you can give us as well as support, we eagerly welcome that! I've copied another neighbor, Jill Hanken, with whom we've talked to — to also keep her in the loop.

Look forward to hearing from you about our desire. Until then, Chris...

Be well and live graciously,

Gwen



"Strategic positioning for individual and organizational success"
1202 Confederate Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23227-4402
Phone: 804.257.5999
Fax: 804.257.7331

3. Email Dated 3/7/19

From: Copple, Brian - DPW Brian.Copple@richmondgov.com
Subject: Street Name Change - Confederate Avenue
Date: March 7, 2019 at 5:17 PM
To: gwen@ccassociatesllc.com
Cc: Vincent, Bobby - DPW Bobby.Vincent@richmondgov.com, Khara, M.S. - DPW M.Khara@richmondgov.com



Ms. Creighton,

Your request for renaming a street was forwarded to my office.

Attached are the DPW Guidelines that are necessary in order to initiate your request. I have also attached the relevant portion of City Code for your information.

Please reach out to me directly should you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you.

Brian E. Copple
Chief of Construction Inspection & Right of Way Management
City of Richmond – Department of Public Works – Construction & ROW
900 East Broad Street; Room 600; Richmond, VA 23219
Office 804_646_0436
Direct 804_646_3639
Cell 804_239_4001
Brian.Copple@Richmondgov.com

Orange cones = No phones

See the Orange, Slow Down

www.richmondgov.com/PublicWorks/RightOfWayMaintenance.aspx

"Your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are." - legendary UCLA Head Coach John Wooden



RightOfWayNam Sec 8-7 thru
ingOrC...licy.pdf 8-10.pdf

4. Email Dated 3/8/19

From: **Townes, Lisa F.** - City Council Office Lisa.Townes@richmondgov.com
Subject: RE: Street Name Change - Confederate Avenue
Date: March 8, 2019 at 9:56 AM
To: Owen Corley Creighton owen@ccasociatesllc.com



Good morning Ms. Creighton:

I am glad Mr. Cople was able to get you that information. My computer would not send it saying it was too large.

I will add to please get a petition signed by the impacted residents and copy all materials to our office.

Again, my apologies for the delay.

Lisa F. Townes

Liaison, Northside District 3
900 E. Broad Street, Suite 305
Richmond, VA 23219
804.646.6055 – Direct
804.646.5468 – Fax
lisa.townes@richmondgov.com

Next District Meeting will be on Thursday, March 28, 2019 at the North Avenue Branch Library.
Presentations by
Senator Jennifer McClellan
Delegate Jeff Bourne
Richmond Opioid Task Force
Richmond Police

5. Email Example Sent 7/5/19

From: **Garland and Gwen Creighton** twosgc@gmail.com
Subject: Neighbor Meet up to Talk about Renaming Confederate Ave
Date: July 5, 2019 at 11:53 AM
To: Sara Garza thegardenroom@aol.com, Dennis Garza Dennis.Garza@longandfoster.com
Cc: jill5500@gmail.com



Good morning, Sara and Dennis!

Hope you both are well and had a great 4th!

Just wanted to extend an invitation to you both to attend a neighbor meetup on Tuesday, July 16th from 6-7 pm at Jill and Jimi Dimitri's house, 1400 Confederate Avenue. Our intent is to continue to assess how folks feel about the street name change as well as considering what the new name might be.

Jill and I are just inviting 3-4 households from each block for this conversation. And so to insure good representation from each block, please RSVP as soon as you can.

Hope you guys can make it! See you soon...

Be well and live graciously,

Gwen

"A woman's heart should be so hidden in Christ that a man should have to seek Him first to find her."

6. First Committee Meeting 7/16/19 Next Steps and Talking Points

DISCUSSION OF NAME-CHANGE FOR CONFEDERATE AVE

NEXT STEP: BLOCK CONVERSATIONS

Between now and August 23rd, connect with neighbors in your block to gauge the level of support about changing the name of our street. Reps from each block are encouraged to decide how that connection will happen (e.g., door to door conversations, block meeting, coffee...)

Set up the conversation in whatever way is most natural and comfortable for you. Ideas re: openers include:

- In other cities throughout the country, neighborhoods are changing the names of streets that have honored the confederacy to more welcoming, inclusive names. (Last year Austin changed its Jeff Davis Ave and Robert E. Lee Road; this year Atlanta changed its Confederate Ave to United Ave.)
- Over the years, a number of neighbors have had conversations about changing our street name. There is new enthusiasm for moving the conversation forward, and we are educating ourselves about the required process. But Step #1 is learning about neighbors' questions, concerns, and opinions about a name change.
- Share any personal experiences, feelings you might have had over the years about the street name and mention discomforts expressed by neighbors at our initial meeting.

Here are the key talking points that we all agreed to at the 7/16 meeting:

1. I/we would really value hearing your thoughts about a street name change.
2. What are some questions and/or concerns you think folks might have?
3. If a majority of neighbors agree to changing the name, what suggestions do you have?
Note: If asked, here are some names others have suggested:
Community Ave; Median Ave; Hydrangea Ave; United Ave; Unity Ave; Walton Ave;
4. May we have your email address/phone number to keep you informed? Are you interested in being more directly involved?

FYI for us: As currently understood, here is the Post Office street name change process:

- The City of Richmond will notify the USPS of the street name change.
- The USPS Address Management Department will make the system change within 7 days of receipt of change.
- We would continue to receive mail addressed to Confederate Ave for possibly indefinitely. It is best to contact family, friends, banks etc with the new street name change when finalized.

Jill Hanken Dimitri - #1400 – jill5500@gmail.com

Gwen Corley Creighton – #1202 - twosgc@gmail.com

7. First Street Name Change Flyer Distributed 11-12/2019

CONFEDERATE AVE NAME CHANGE EFFORT INFORMATION AND STATUS UPDATE

Background

In other cities throughout the country, neighborhoods are changing the names of streets that have honored the Confederacy to more welcoming, inclusive names. (Last year Austin changed its Jeff Davis Avenue and Robert E. Lee Road; this year Atlanta changed its Confederate Ave. to United Ave. And, in May of this year Arlington County, Virginia changed the name of its Jeff Davis Highway [Route 1] to Richmond Highway.)

Over the years, many Confederate Avenue neighbors have discussed the possibility of changing our street name. There is new momentum for moving the process forward. Starting last summer, a small group of neighbors -- representing each of the 4 blocks of the street -- met several times to learn about the required process. We have also engaged neighbors in conversations to learn about their questions, concerns, and opinions about a name change. We've heard a wide range of opinions -- from enthusiastic support to strong opposition.

We live in the Laburnum Park Historic District. And, in honoring that, we have gained a deeper understanding of our neighborhood from local historians as well as our own research about the naming of some of the street names in our community:

Laburnum Park was a development led by the descendants of Joseph Bryan - the original owner of the Laburnum House. Thus, many of the street names in our community have an association with the Bryan family: Lamont was the maiden name of Joseph Bryan's wife Isobel; Chatham was the historic home of Betty Coalter Bryan, Joseph's mother; Wilmington Island, Georgia was the site of a family home in the late 18th and early 19th centuries; and, Palmyra, Virginia is where Bryan first practiced law. Confederate, the only name that doesn't refer to a person or place may have been inspired by the family's strong commitment to the Confederate cause. Joseph Bryan took up arms for the Confederacy (the Confederate States of America) at the age of 18 and fought with the Richmond Howitzers and the Mosby's Rangers. His wife Isobel founded the Confederate Memorial Literary Society which became the Museum of the Confederacy.

In conversations with our Council Representatives as well as with city staff, it's required that we offer a new name to replace the current one. Thus far, the top suggestions for new names have been:

- "Walton Ave" which would just extend the street name from the east side of Brook Rd.
- "Median Way" which acknowledges the beautiful wide avenue and grass median for mature trees.

Support and opposition rationale are summarized below.

Support for a Name Change

- After 154 years, it is no longer necessary or appropriate to continue to honor the Confederacy's divisive purposes and support of slavery.
- Supporters have often been embarrassed and/or apologetic about the name, and some of their children have been ridiculed when telling friends and classmates their address.
- The history of the area is still preserved by the historical marker on Brook Road at Confederate Avenue and several displays of cannon balls and other remnants of the Civil War on various properties. While other streets in the area may have derivations from individuals or battle sites from the Civil War (including Walton), those names do not directly draw attention to support for the Confederacy.
- People who are "okay" with the name have also said that if it is offensive to others on the street, they would support a change.

- When we - individually and collectively - make intentional efforts to remove daily reminders of our exclusive and divisive history, then we will fully realize the grandeur of our community.
- And, while changing our addresses will create some minimal inconveniences for everyone, the goal of a new street name is forward looking – i.e. to secure a more hospitable, inclusive and welcoming neighborhood for future generations.

Opposition to a Name Change

- Opponents say the name remains historically relevant and there is no need or reason to change it. It is based on the historic significance of the street which served as the outer fortifications of the Confederate Army to protect Richmond during the Civil War.
- The current name is "no big deal" and Confederate is "just a name" and it affects nothing, ultimately.
- Many neighbors have cited a "hassle factor". They are concerned that a name change will require immediate address changes for their home businesses, mail, countless records and other arrangements. [Note: The U.S. Postal Service confirms that, after a street name change, mail delivery and services will continue to the previous street name far into the future, sometimes as long as 10 years! Likewise, individual actions to shift to the new name can occur over a very long period of time.]

Next Steps

- We'd like to hear back from you with questions, information additions, other street name suggestions, etc. by the end of this year.
- We plan to send out an updated information sheet the 1st of the year.
- When that updated information sheet is disseminated, it will also include a postcard for each household to formally vote on their support or opposition to the name change as well as a proposed new name.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR REVIEWING THIS INFORMATION AND FOLLOWING UP WITH US REGARDING YOUR IDEAS, THOUGHTS, AND QUESTIONS!

AND, WE WISH EACH OF YOU A PEACEFUL AND JOYFUL HOLIDAY!

Any or all of us would appreciate hearing from you:

1200 Block

Gwen Corley Creighton (1202) – 804-353-5726 – twosgc@gmail.com

Taylor Bates (1204) – 804-510-9905 – taylorjanebates@gmail.com

Irene Carney (1210) – 804-301-0226 – irene.carney51@gmail.com

1400 Block

Jill Hanken Dimitri (1400) – 804-402-2460 – jill5500@gmail.com

Sarah Ochs (1402) – 804-819-0396 – ochsarab@gmail.com

Tom Kapsidelis (1412) – 804-353-5598 – tkapsidelis@gmail.com

1500 Block

Roxie Allison (1508) – 804-353-8047 – roxieallison@comcast.net

1600 Block

John Knapp (1601) – 804-240-2636 – john.w.knapp.jr@gmail.com

Randee Humphrey (1604) – 804-317-8030 – randperk@gmail.com

8. Email Invitation Dated 2/8/20 and Action Items Dated 2/16/20

From: Jill Dimitri jill5500@gmail.com

Subject: Street Name Change

Date: February 8, 2020 at 12:32 PM

To: twosgc@gmail.com, Irene Carney irene.carney51@gmail.com, Taylor Bates taylorjanebates@gmail.com, tkapsidelis@gmail.com, Karin Kapsidelis kkapsidelis@gmail.com, Sarah Ochs ochsarah@gmail.com, roxieallison@comcast.net, Fay Eura faysure@gmail.com, John.w.knapp.jr@gmail.com, Randee Humphrey randperk@gmail.com, emily.hulburt@gmail.com



Hello Everyone - We'd like to get together to discuss feedback from the flyer we distributed to the entire street in December and make some decisions about next steps.

Please come to my house (1400) next Sunday - February 16 - from 2 - 3 pm. Gwen and I appreciate your ongoing interest and efforts to accomplish our goal!

Jill Dimitri

Sent from my iPad

<u>WHAT</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>BY WHEN</u>
1. Send out summary of "votes"	Jill and Gwen	ASAP
2. Have more face to face conversations with undecided neighbors and document their "vote".	Reps from each block	Over the next few weeks.
3. Document what actions we all might have to take as well as how for a street name change.	Sara	By the next time we meet??
4. Draft a follow up/thank you to neighbors as well as an updated info sheet (editing the Dec. one).	Irene and Fred to draft; Karin volunteered to distribute	Within the next 7-10 days
5. Follow up with any members of the Bryan family to get their thoughts on this street name change.	Tom & Karin	By our next meeting
6. Contact the Valentine Museum re: a neighborhood gathering about the history of Laburnum Park.	Fred and Irene	Target timeframe: late spring
7. Contact Eternity Church re: hosting the Laburnum Park History gathering	Gwen	Once known that the Valentine will do it and when.
8. Update Ginter Park President re: our efforts	Gwen	By 2/21

9. Flyer dated 6/16 for 1st Survey Vote

To: Confederate Ave. Neighbors
Re: Changing our Street Name - It's Time!
Date: June 16, 2020

In December, 2019 we communicated with all the households on the street about ongoing conversations and efforts to change our street name to a more welcoming one. Thank you for your questions, feedback and follow up conversations about your support, opposition and even suggestions for another name.

When the Covid-19 pandemic disrupted our lives, we paused. Recent events have moved a number of neighbors to express a desire to revive and move forward now. The local – and worldwide -- movement to address a series of recent brutal and inhumane killings of Black Americans and tackle long-standing racial injustice and disparities demand our attention now more than ever. The widespread calls of the Governor, City Council and others to remove monuments and other symbols of "The Lost Cause" and symbols associated with racist causes are resonating with so many today.

We want your input.

We invite every household on the street to participate in a short one-time-only online survey.

Next Steps:

1. The Online Survey has four questions and is available at <https://bit.ly/ConfederateAvenue>
Please complete the Survey **BY JUNE 23rd**. Your voice will be heard regarding whether or not you support a change as well as your first, second and third name choices. We've been soliciting name suggestions since December and these listed are the ones which garnered the most support. Using ranked-choice voting, we will determine the neighborhood's top choice. Each household has one vote and may only vote once. Again, please complete the survey by June 23rd so that your voice will be heard and your one vote counted.
2. We will circle back with you and share the survey data and results which then will be part of the documentation to be sent to Kim Gray and Chris Hilbert, our 2nd and 3rd District Council Representatives.

Again, we sincerely ask for your input to inform this significant and timely decision.

Thank you very much for your thoughtful participation. If you have any questions, please contact any of us:

1200 Block

Gwen Corley Creighton (1202) – 804-353-5726 – twosgc@gmail.com
Taylor Bates (1204) – 804-510-9905 – taylorjanebates@gmail.com
Irene Carney (1210) – 804-301-0226 – irene.carney51@gmail.com

1400 Block

Jill Hanken Dimitri (1400) – 804-402-2460 – jill5500@gmail.com
Sarah Ochs (1402) – 804-819-0396 – ochsarah@gmail.com
Tom and Karin Kapsidelis (1412) – 804-358-5598 – tkapsidelis@gmail.com ; kkapsidelis@gmail.com

1500 Block

Roxie Allison (1508) – 804-353-8047 – roxieallison@comcast.net

1600 Block

John Knapp and Faye Eure (1601) – 804-240-2636 – john.w.knappjr@gmail.com; fayeure@gmail.com
Ranee Humphrey (1604) – 804-317-8030 – randperk@gmail.com

10. Flyer dated 6/16 with 1st Survey Results and Next Steps

To: Confederate Ave. Neighbors

Re: Changing our Street Name - It's Time!

THANK YOU to all of the households (52 out of 59!) for sharing your feedback on our latest survey. We want to share the results and the next steps. Our goal is to be transparent, open-minded, and collaborative - in the spirit of our neighborhood.

Survey Results

An overwhelming majority (76% of all households – 45 out of 59 families) on our street indicated that they support changing the name of the street. Note: 3 houses are vacant: 1603, 1609 and 1512.

We sincerely value your feedback and participation.

Our Next Steps: The Naming Process

We received significant feedback about the new street name process. To promote broad understanding and full participation, we have revised the naming process.

1. By Tuesday, July 7th you will receive a link to another online survey.
2. We will again circle back to all of you to share those results before submitting documentation to our Council representatives.

We thank you all for the plethora of name suggestions! Those names have been gathered through street block meetings, neighborhood conversations and emails since August 2019, and through the survey conducted June 16-23, 2020. The full listing is below:

FULL LISTING OF NAME SUGGESTIONS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Arents/ Grace Arents Avenue | 18 Laburnum Park Avenue |
| 2 Balustrade Orchard Avenue | 19 Loving Avenue |
| 3 Bryant Avenue | 20 Magnolia Avenue |
| 4 Carysbrook Avenue | 21 Mary Jane Avenue |
| 5 Central Boulevard | 22 Monteith Avenue |
| 6 Chandler Integration Avenue | 23 Palisade Grove Avenue |
| 7 Cumberland Avenue | 24 Parados Avenue |
| 8 Defenses Avenue | 25 Seddon Avenue |
| 9 Delaney Avenue | 26 Southern Avenue |
| 10 Federated Avenue | 27 Swann Avenue |
| 11 Earthworks Avenue | 28 Sweet Bay Avenue |
| 12 Fortification Avenue | 29 Sylvan Avenue |
| 13 Gabriel Avenue | 30 Union Avenue |
| 14 Ginter/Lewis Ginter Avenue | 31 Verdant Avenue |
| 15 Greenway Ave | 32 Virginia Avenue |
| 16 Jimmie Monteith Avenue | 33 Walton Avenue |
| 17 Kilpatrick Avenue | |

Every suggested name was reviewed for viability using the [Street Name Clearinghouse](#) reference tool, which is maintained by PlanRVA (formerly Richmond Regional Planning District Commission). From the PlanRVA website:

The intent of this region-wide tool is to avoid and eliminate, whenever possible, existing street name duplicates. With the implementation of the E-911 system for Emergency Responders (Charles City, Chesterfield, Hanover, Henrico, Goochland, New Kent, Powhatan, Richmond) avoiding duplication is important in preventing potential delays in emergency service response. There is an additional benefit in reducing confusion related to public and private delivery services and costs. The Street Name Clearinghouse (SNC) program is advisory only. Following the recommendations is at the prerogative of each local government.

Not all of the suggested names proved to be unique to the region or to Richmond specifically. These names are no longer in contention because similar names are already in use or are reserved for use as noted in the table below.

Suggested Name	Unique?	Existing Uses or Reserved for Use
Bryan Avenue	No	Bryan Court and BryantPark (all extensions) reserved by Henrico County
Central Boulevard	No	Central Ave (Chesterfield, Richmond, Henrico) Central Drive (Hanover)
Cumberland Avenue	No	Cumberland Street (Richmond) Cumberland Road (New Kent)
Defenses Avenue	No	Defense Avenue (Henrico)
Delaney Avenue	No	Delaney Street (Henrico)
Earthworks Avenue	No	Earthworks Drive res. by Hanover
Gabriel Avenue	No	Gabriel Court (Henrico) Gabriel Prosser (all extensions) reserved by City of Richmond
Ginter Avenue	No	Ginter Street (Henrico)
Greenway Avenue	No	Greenway Avenue (Henrico); Greenway Lane (Richmond) Greenway Circle (New Kent); Greenway Trail reserved by Chesterfield County
Kilpatrick Avenue	No	Kilpatrick Lane (Henrico)
Loving Avenue	No	Loving Drive (Hanover)
Magnolia Avenue	No	Magnolia Road (Richmond + Henrico) Magnolia Street (Richmond + Henrico)
Mary Jane Avenue	No	Mary Jane Terrace reserved by Henrico County
Monteith Avenue	No	Monteith Road (Richmond)
Seddon Avenue	No	Extension of existing street
Southern Avenue	No	Southern Court (Henrico) Southern Trail (Hanover)
Swann Avenue	No	Swann Road (Powhatan)
Sweet Bay Avenue	No	Sweet Bay (all extensions) res. by Powhatan County
Sylvan Avenue	No	Sylvan Court, Road (Richmond); Sylvan Road (New Kent) Sylvan Lane (Goochland + New Kent)
Union Avenue	No	Union Street (Richmond, Hanover + Henrico)
Virginia Avenue	No	Virginia Avenue (Richmond, Henrico, Chesterfield, New Kent)
Walton Avenue	No	Extension of existing street

FINAL PROPOSED NAMES

- The names below are unique and will be on the survey you will receive by Tuesday, July 7th.
- If you feel strongly about a particular name, we encourage you to advocate among your neighbors for that choice between now and when you vote the week of July 7th.
- Again, you will be asked to vote for your first, second, and third name preferences. You may also vote for a single preferred name three times (as your #1, #2 and #3 choices).
- From the survey system's tally of the votes, we will identify the name that has the most 1st preference votes. If no name clearly has the most 1st preference votes, we will also include 2nd (and if necessary, 3rd preference votes).

Proposed Name	Unique?	Notes on context of name
Balustrade Orchard Avenue	Yes	Describes the natural or built aesthetic of the street; a balustrade is a railing supported by posts; combined with Orchard to acknowledge a former agricultural use of the area comprising Laburnum Park.
Carysbrook Avenue	Yes	Carysbrook was the birthplace of Isobel Lamont Bryan, wife of Joseph Bryan. Mrs. Bryan was noteworthy in her own right as founder of the Museum of the Confederacy, and instrumental in establishing the section of Hollywood cemetery reserved for the Confederate war dead.
Chandler Integration Avenue	Yes	Chandler Junior School was the neighborhood school for Confederate Ave residents. In September 1960, it became the 1st school to be voluntarily integrated. This name celebrates the bravery of those black students who launched this new era of change.
Federated Avenue	Yes	Federated is an adjective for a collection of autonomous individuals or parts
Fortification Avenue	Yes	A reference to the area's geographic significance during the Civil War, where one line of earthworks crossed a section of what is now Confederate Ave, just west of Brook Road.
Grace Arents Avenue	Yes	Grace Arents 1848-1926 was a philanthropist and social reformer with a particular interest in education and healthcare for impoverished children. She donated the Lewis Ginter Community Building to the neighborhood, oversaw the construction of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, and gave to the City Bloemendaal Farm, now the botanical garden, to honor her uncle, Lewis Ginter.
Jimmie Monteith Avenue	Yes	Jimmie Monteith moved to Richmond in 1926 at the age of 9 and grew up at 1511 Confederate. Drafted at the beginning of WWII, he rose through the ranks and ultimately led troops through the initial D-Day assault on the beaches of Normandy. After his troops succeeded in destroying several enemy positions, he was killed by enemy fire. He was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously in 1945, cited for "courage, gallantry, and intrepid leadership."
Laburnum Park Boulevard	Yes	Recognizes the prominence of our street as a central boulevard in the Laburnum Park Historic District.
Palisade Grove Avenue	Yes	Palisade is another word describing earthen works and fortifications, combined with Grove to acknowledge the area's significant tree canopy.
Parados Avenue	Yes	Parados is a synonym for earthen works and fortifications.
Verdant Avenue	Yes	Verdant is an adjective describing the lush green natural aesthetic of our neighborhood.

City Street Name Changing Process

1. Once we have decided on a name, we will submit documentation of our process and our preferred new name to our City Council reps: Kim Gray, 2nd District and Chris Hilbert, 3rd District. (Their preference before making a resolution is that at least 67% of the households support the name change.)
2. City Council Representatives will introduce a joint resolution to Council on either the 2nd or 4th Monday at a Council meeting.
3. The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) shall prepare a report to submit to Council that includes reviews by Public Works for estimated costs as well as by the Transportation, Land Use and Housing Committee. Note: Any costs incurred for the change will be absorbed by the City.
4. The Report is submitted to Council which then holds a public hearing before taking final action.
5. Once the resolution has been passed, City Administration will implement the resolution inclusive of notifying all city departments as well as other entities (Post Office, Mapping, etc.) of the change.

Since the City of Richmond's code only allows street names to be changed once per 100 years, we are so appreciative of your thoughtful participation in this process. If you have any questions, please contact any of us:

1200 Block

Gwen Corley Creighton (1202) – 804-353-5726 – twosgc@gmail.com

Taylor Bates (1204) – 804-510-9905 – taylorianebates@gmail.com

Irene Carney (1210) – 804-301-0226 – irene.carney51@gmail.com

1400 Block

Jill Hanken Dimitri (1400) – 804-402-2460 – jill5500@gmail.com

Sarah Ochs (1402) – 804-819-0396 – ochsarah@gmail.com

Tom and Karin Kapsidelis (1412) – 804-358-5598 – tkapsidelis@gmail.com ; kkapsidelis@gmail.com

1500 Block

Roxie Allison (1508) – 804-353-8047 – roxieallison@comcast.net

Sarah Hilterbrant (1510) 716-359-6437 -- sarah.hilterbrant@gmail.com

1600 Block

John Knapp and Faye Eure (1601) – 804-240-2636 – john.w.knapp.ir@gmail.com; fayeure@gmail.com

Randee Humphrey (1604) – 804-317-8030 – randperk@gmail.com

Emily Hulburt (1614) 804-512-7446 – emily.hulburt@gmail.com

Matt Baker (1614) 865-771-1220 – maibeike@gmail.com

11. 1) Email Draft for Final Survey Flyer and (2) Final Name Survey Flyer hard copy

1)

From: Gwen Corley Creighton twosgc@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Email and Survey Results Communication Follow up
Date: July 6, 2020 at 7:33 PM
To: Fred Irene Orelove. Carney irane.carney51@gmail.com, Karin Kapsidelis kkapsidelis@gmail.com, Thomas Kapsidelis tkapsidelis@gmail.com, Randee Humphrey randperk@gmail.com, Fay Eure fayeure@gmail.com, John Knapp john.w.knappjr@gmail.com, Sarah Ochs ochsarah@gmail.com, Taylor Bates taylorjanebates@gmail.com, Roxie Allison roxieallison@comcast.net, Emily Hulburt emily.hulburt@gmail.com, Sarah Hilterbrant sarah.hilterbrant@gmail.com, malbeike@gmail.com
Cc: jill5500@gmail.com, Rick Carew rick.carew@gmail.com
Bcc: Garland Creighton garland@garlandcreightoncpa.com, Rasheeda Creighton mcreighton@gmail.com

Good evening, all,

Since we've heard from some of you (and others are either traveling or may not have any specific feedback), here is the email draft (again, THANK YOU, RANDEE!!!) that you can use/customize to send out with the link to the neighbors on your block. We did remove the comments section on the survey. And, do remember to cast your votes!!

Looking forward to seeing the results!

Dear ___ Block Neighbors/Friends,

The moment has arrived to cast your vote for your household's preferred street name. A gentle reminder: only one survey response is permitted for each household, and you may vote for your first, second, and third choices. If you feel strongly about one preferred name, you may use all your votes for that name.

The information you submit remains anonymous. The steering committee is seeking to discern which name, or names, emerge as top contenders, and the results will be shared with all residents before materials are submitted to our City Council representatives later this month. The City then conducts its own due diligence process to ascertain the utility of a proposed name.

We sincerely appreciate everyone's care and consideration of this weighty decision--once in 100 years the opportunity to change a street name is granted by the City, and our time has come. Thank you so much for all perspectives and everyone's participation.

Here is the link to the survey:

<https://bit.ly/ConfederateName>

Have a great week!!

Jill and Gwen

P.S.

Let Gwen know if you need any hard copies of this correspondence.

2) [2 pages]

To: Confederate Ave. Neighbors

Re: Changing our Street Name - It's Time!

Last week, a majority of Confederate Avenue residents -- 76% of all residents and 85% of those who voted -- gave their support for changing our street's name to a new name that embodies the spirit of our community. Our next step as a neighborhood is to select a name that we will submit to our City Council representatives who then will make a joint resolution to City Council to officially change our street name.

Based on feedback from a wide-range of neighbors, we are once again asking you to consider and vote for your preferred new street name. This final list of names was compiled from submissions made directly to the committee and through the previous survey.

Please vote for your first, second, and third name preferences. You may also vote for a single preferred name three times (as your #1, #2 and #3 choices). Voting multiple times for a single candidate indicates your strong preference for one option, while selecting three different candidates indicates your interest in several names as good candidates. Your 1st Preference Vote is your top choice overall.

From the survey system's tally of the votes, we will identify the name that has the most 1st preference votes. If no name has an overwhelming majority of 1st preference votes, we will also include a tally of the 2nd (and if necessary, 3rd) preference votes.

We ask that each household complete only one survey and submit it no later than Monday, July 13, 2020. You may access the survey by keying in this at the url: <https://bit.ly/ConfederateName>

FINAL PROPOSED NAMES

Proposed Name	Unique?	Notes on context of name
Balustrade Orchard Avenue	Yes	Describes the natural or built aesthetic of the street; a balustrade is a railing supported by posts; combined with Orchard to acknowledge a former agricultural use of the area comprising Laburnum Park.
Carysbrook Avenue	Yes	Carysbrook was the birthplace of Isobel Lamont Bryan, wife of Joseph Bryan. Mrs. Bryan was noteworthy in her own right as founder of the Museum of the Confederacy, and instrumental in establishing the section of Hollywood cemetery reserved for the Confederate war dead.
Chandler Integration Avenue	Yes	Chandler Junior School was the neighborhood school for Confederate Ave residents. In September 1960, it became the 1st school to be voluntarily integrated. This name celebrates the bravery of those black students who launched this new era of change.
Federated Avenue	Yes	Federated is an adjective for a collection of autonomous individuals or parts
Fortification Avenue	Yes	A reference to the area's geographic significance during the Civil War, where one line of earthworks crossed a section of what is now Confederate Ave, just west of Brook Road.
Grace Arents Avenue	Yes	Grace Arents 1848-1926 was a philanthropist and social reformer with a particular interest in education and healthcare for impoverished children. She donated the Lewis Ginter Community Building to the neighborhood, oversaw the construction of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, and gave to the City Bloemendaal Farm, now the botanical garden, to honor her uncle, Lewis Ginter.
Jimmie Monteith Avenue	Yes	Jimmie Monteith moved to Richmond in 1926 at the age of 9 and grew up at 1511 Confederate. Drafted at the beginning of WWII, he rose through the ranks and ultimately led troops through the initial D-Day assault on the beaches of Normandy. After his troops succeeded in destroying several enemy positions, he was killed by enemy fire. He was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously in 1945, cited for "courage, gallantry, and intrepid leadership."
Laburnum Park Boulevard	Yes	Recognizes the prominence of our street as a central boulevard in the Laburnum Park Historic District.
Palisade Grove Avenue	Yes	Palisade is another word describing earthen works and fortifications, combined with Grove to acknowledge the area's significant tree canopy.
Parados Avenue	Yes	Parados is a synonym for earthen works and fortifications.
Verdant Avenue	Yes	Verdant is an adjective describing the lush green natural aesthetic of our neighborhood.

1200 Block

Gwen Corley Creighton (1202) – 804-353-5726 – twosqc@gmail.com

Taylor Bates (1204) – 804-510-9905 – taylorjanebates@gmail.com

Irene Carney (1210) – 804-301-0226 – irene.camey51@gmail.com

12. Email dated 7/17 with 2nd Survey Results and 2nd Survey Results Flyer

From: Jill Dimitri jill5500@gmail.com 

Subject: Re: Street Name Survey Results!

Date: July 17, 2020 at 9:38 AM

To: John Knapp john.w.knapp.jr@gmail.com

Cc: Garland and Gwen Creighton twosgc@gmail.com, Randee Humphrey randperk@gmail.com, Sarah Ochs ochsarah@gmail.com, Thomas Kapsidelis tkapsidelis@gmail.com, Karin Kapsidelis kkapsidelis@gmail.com, Irene Carney irene.carney51@gmail.com, Roxie Allison roxieallison@comcast.net, Fay Eure fayeure@gmail.com, Taylor Bates taylorjanebates@gmail.com, Emily Hulburt emily.hulburt@gmail.com, Sarah Hilterbrant sarah.hilterbrant@gmail.com



Good Morning Everyone - We didn't get much feedback about the results flyer, so we're ready to send out this information to the neighborhood! It's very exciting to reach this point!

Can the block representatives please get this out to your blocks TODAY? (I've heard there is some buzz from people wanting to see the results, so we should do this as soon as possible). You can send out by email (and you know if you need to follow up with a paper version to some folks on your blocks.)

I've attached the Results Flyer again here, so you can forward.

Please confirm when you've contacted your block.

Thank you!!

Jill & Gwen & Randee

On Fri, Jul 17, 2020 at 9:09 AM Jill Dimitri <jill5500@gmail.com> wrote:

Sent from my iPad

> On Jul 15, 2020, at 7:21 PM, John Knapp <john.w.knapp.jr@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> Fay and I think it looks great. Thanks for all you guys have done to get us to this point.

>

>

>

> On Jul 15, 2020, at 7:04 PM, Jill Dimitri <jill5500@gmail.com> wrote:

>



**Name Survey
Results...er.docx**

The Results Are In!

Thank you to all of our neighbors for submitting your votes for the name change of our street. We had 90% participation! 56 out of 62 households voted - a great turnout! We appreciate everybody taking the time to express your preferences and make your vote count.

Here's a brief summary of the results. You can find pie charts with the votes for all candidates on the following page.

First Preference

Laburnum Park Boulevard - 50%

Grace Arents Avenue - 23.2%

Verdant Avenue - 8.9%

Second Preference

Laburnum Park Boulevard - 41.1%

Grace Arents Avenue - 26.8%

Verdant Avenue - 14.3%

Third Preference

Laburnum Park Boulevard - 35.7%

Grace Arents Avenue - 23.2%

Verdant Avenue - 14.3%

As a reminder, these were the voting instructions: *Please vote for your first, second, and third name preferences. You may also vote for a single preferred name three times (as your #1, #2 and #3 choices). Voting multiple times for a single candidate indicates your strong preference for one option, while selecting three different candidates indicates your interest in several names as good candidates. Your 1st Preference Vote is your top choice overall.*

Based on these results, we see that **Laburnum Park Boulevard** received the most votes by a substantial margin for first preference. Receiving half of the first preference votes means it received as many votes as all other candidates combined. Residents also indicated it as a strong preference since it also received the most second- and third-preference votes. Grace Arents Ave. was the second highest vote getter and Verdant Ave. placed third.

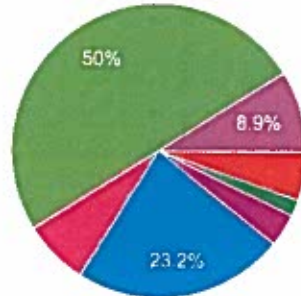
Our next step will be to submit these results and our neighborhood's preference for **Laburnum Park Boulevard** to our City Council representatives who then will make a joint resolution to City Council to officially change our street name. The City will also conduct its own due diligence procedures to ascertain the utility of a proposed name.

Thank you for participating in this process. We will keep you apprised of the process with our City Council representatives. We are also working on other tools, such as a checklist, to help everyone prepare for the name change and make sure the process goes smoothly.

Thank you!

What is your first choice for our new street name?

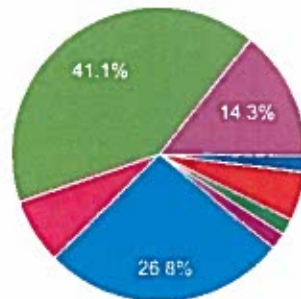
56 responses



- Balustrade Orchard Avenue
- Carysbrook Avenue
- Chandler Integration Avenue
- Federated Avenue
- Fortification Avenue
- Grace Arents Avenue
- Jimmie Monteith Avenue
- Laburnum Park Boulevard
- Palisade Grove Avenue
- Parados Avenue
- Verdant Avenue

What is your second choice for our new street name?

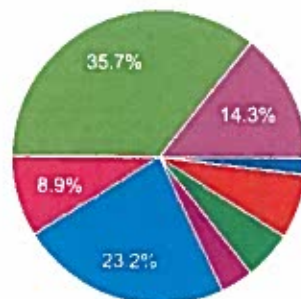
56 responses



- Balustrade Orchard Avenue
- Carysbrook Avenue
- Chandler Integration Avenue
- Federated Avenue
- Fortification Avenue
- Grace Arents Avenue
- Jimmie Monteith Avenue
- Laburnum Park Boulevard
- Palisade Grove Avenue
- Parados Avenue
- Verdant Avenue

What is your third choice for our new street name?

56 responses



- Balustrade Orchard Avenue
- Carysbrook Avenue
- Chandler Integration Avenue
- Federated Avenue
- Fortification Avenue
- Grace Arents Avenue
- Jimmie Monteith Avenue
- Laburnum Park Boulevard
- Palisade Grove Avenue
- Parados Avenue
- Verdant Avenue