

INTRODUCED: June 14, 2021

AN ORDINANCE No. 2021-169

To designate the first block of East Charity Street in honor of the late Lillie Ann Estes.

Patrons – All Members of Council

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: JUN 28 2021 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of Council, Lillie Ann Estes was born in Hampton, Virginia and came to the city of Richmond in 1977 to attend Virginia Commonwealth University where she earned a bachelor's degree in justice and public safety; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of Council, Lillie Ann Estes became a leading voice in promoting fair housing practices and used her apartment in Gilpin Court as a headquarters for housing activism; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of Council, Lillie Ann Estes' activities and honors included founding Residents of Public Housing Against Mass Eviction and the Charles S. Gilpin Community Farm, Community Justice Film Series; involvement with the Maggie L. Walker Initiative for Expanding Opportunity and Fighting Poverty, the Virginia Poverty Law Center,

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: JUN 28 2021 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

Hope in the Cities, the Community Justice Network; attending Harvard University's Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice; receiving the Mothers of Courage Award from Mothers for Justice and Equality; and running for the office of the mayor of the city of Richmond in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Lillie Ann Estes died on January 31, 2019, with memorial services being held at Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church in Jackson Ward before she was laid to rest in Forest Lawn Cemetery in the city of Richmond, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to memorialize Lillie Ann Estes' contributions to social activism and community service in the city of Richmond by designating the first block of East Charity Street in her honor as "Lillie Estes Lane;" 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 (2020), 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 first block of East Charity Street shall be designated in honor of Lillie Ann Estes as "Lillie Estes Lane," pursuant to this ordinance.

§ 2. **Effect of Designation.** The designation of the first block of East Charity Street made pursuant to this ordinance shall be honorary only, shall not replace the existing name of the road, and shall have no effect on the address of any property with an address on the designated road. The sole effect of designation pursuant to this ordinance shall be to authorize the placement

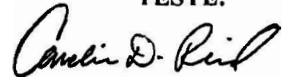
of commemorative signs in accordance with this ordinance memorializing the designation in honor of the named person.

§ 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 road in question such that a reasonable person could not conclude that the commemorative signs reflect the actual name of the road. The commemorative signs (i) shall be affixed to a sign pole installed at each end of the block designated in section 1 of this ordinance for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of this section or to any existing sign identifying the block designated in section 1 of this ordinance located at each end of the block designated in section 1 of this ordinance and (ii) shall bear the name “Lillie Estes Lane,” as set forth in section 1 of this ordinance.

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

A TRUE COPY:

TESTE:



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 City Attorney

THROUGH Joyce Davis, Interim Council Chief of Staff

FROM Steven Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

COPY Katherine Jordan, 2nd District Council Member
Sven Philipsen, 2nd District Liaison
Tabrica Rentz, Interim Deputy City Attorney

DATE June 1, 2021

PAGE/s 1 of 2

TITLE Honorary Designation of a block in honor of Lillie Estes

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

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

Jordan

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Land Use, Housing & Transportation

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

The patron request that legislation be drafted for Council’s consideration that designates the a block of Charity Street from its intersection with St. James Street to its intersection with First Street, in honor of Lillie Estes, as *Lillie Estes Lane*, using two signs.

BACKGROUND

The City has made designations of City blocks in honor notable persons in Richmond’s history such as Lillie Estes.

- Lillie Ann Estes was born in Hampton, Virginia to Henry and Rebecca Estes and grew up in Newport News. She came to Richmond in 1977 to attend Virginia Commonwealth University.
- Ms. Estes earned a bachelor’s degree in justice and public safety. She became a leading voice in fair housing practices – using her apartment in Gilpin Court as a

headquarters for housing activism.

- She founded Residents of Public Housing Against Mass Eviction (RePHRAME), and the Charles S. Gilpin Community Farm Community Justice Film Series. Ms. Estes was involved with the Maggie L. Walker Initiative for Expanding Opportunity and Fighting Poverty, Virginia Poverty Law Center, Hope in the Cities, Community Justice Network, and attended Harvard University’s Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice. She received the Mothers of Courage Award from Mothers for Justice and Equality.
- Ms. Estes ran for mayor in 2016.
- Ms. Estes died on January 31, 2019. Memorial services were held at Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church in Jackson Ward before she was laid to rest in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

The biographical information given above is provided by the JXN Project.

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