

INTRODUCED: May 12, 2025

AN ORDINANCE No. 2025-106

To designate the 2100 block of Edwards Avenue in honor of Harold Thomas.

Patron – Ms. Trammell

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: MAY 27 2025 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. **Designation of Street Block for Honorary Name.** The 2100 block of Edwards Avenue shall be designated in honor of Harold Thomas, 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.

AYES: _____ NOES: _____ ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: _____ REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

§ 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 (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 road 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 of the person set forth in section 1 of this ordinance.

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

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Ordinance/Resolution Request

TO Laura Drewry, City Attorney

THRU Matthew Slaats, Interim Council Chief of Staff

FROM Steven Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

COPY Reva M Trammell, 8th District Council Member
Rick Bishop, 8th District Council Liaison
Tabrica Rentz, Deputy City Attorney
Will Perkins, Legislative Service Manager

DATE March 26, 2025

PAGE/s 1 of 2

TITLE Designating the 2100th Block of Edwards Avenue in Honor of Harold Thomas

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

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

Trammell

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Land Use, Housing & Transportation

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

Designating the 2100th block of Edwards Avenue in honor of the late Harold Thomas.

BACKGROUND

The patron wishes to honor the late Harold Thomas who passed away in 2003. He is the founder of H&H Fish Market during the early 1970's. In 1982 the market became Harold's Kitchen. Harold's Kitchen is a part of Richmond's increasingly renowned food scene and serves "soul food" under the motto "so great you'll scrape you plate."

Mr. Thomas was devoutly Christian and regularly attended Morning Star Baptist Church. He worked diligently to feed homeless persons from his restaurant and often helped the children of the Blackwell community. Harold's Kitchen restaurant continues under the leadership of

Harold Thomas, Jr, his wife Jacqueline, and their son Harold Thomas, III at 806 E. 22nd Street, at the intersection of E. 22nd Street and Edwards Avenue.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact Yes ☐ No ☒

Budget Amendment Required Yes ☐ No ☒

Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact \$ N/A

Note: Typically, signage costs are paid from DPW operating funds.

Attachment/s Yes ☐ No ☒