

INTRODUCED: April 24, 2023

AN ORDINANCE No. 2023-132

To designate the 3100 block of Hull Street in honor of Preston Brown and Kirby Carmichael.

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Patrons – Ms. Trammell, Ms. Lambert and Ms. Newbille

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Approved as to form and legality  
by the City Attorney

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PUBLIC HEARING: MAY 8 2023 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Council, Preston Brown was an entrepreneur, newspaperman, broadcaster, and television personality in the city of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Council, Preston Brown was the owner of WCLM 1450-AM, the last known Black-owned radio station in the city of Richmond which was located in the 3100 block of Hull Street; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Council, WCLM 1450-AM and Preston Brown were known for supporting civic groups and providing free airtime to the City's Department of Police to assist in making the city of Richmond safer; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Council, Preston Brown's WCLM 1450-

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN:

ADOPTED: MAY 8 2023 REJECTED:  STRICKEN:

AM carried the radio show which featured the popular Kirby Carmichael, known as the “Tall Man of Soul,” from the 3100 block of Hull Street; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to memorialize the lives of Preston Brown and Kirby Carmichael for their contributions to the entertainment, social, and charitable life of the city of Richmond by designating the 3100 block of Hull Street in their 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 (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 Names.** The 3100 block of Hull Street shall be designated in honor of Preston Brown and Kirby Carmichael pursuant to this ordinance.

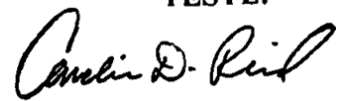
§ 2. **Effect of Designation.** The designation of the portion of the street made pursuant to this ordinance shall be honorary only, shall not replace the existing name of the street, and shall have no effect on the address of any property with an address on the designated street blocks. The sole effect 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 persons.

§ 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 portion of the street 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 portion of the street designated in section 1 of this ordinance for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of this section or to any existing sign identifying the portion of the street designated in section 1 of this ordinance located at each end of the portion of the street designated in section 1 of this ordinance and (ii) shall bear the name of the persons 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:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlin D. Reil". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**City Clerk**



# Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

## Office of the Council Chief of Staff

**RECEIVED**

By City Attorney at 11:20 am, Apr 18, 2023

## Ordinance/Resolution Request

**TO** Laura Drewry, City Attorney

**THROUGH** LaTasha Holmes, Council Chief of Staff

**FROM** Steven Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

**COPY** Reva M. Trammell, 8th District Council Member  
Richard Bishop, 8th District Liaison  
Tabrica Rentz, Deputy City Attorney

**DATE** April 14, 2023

**PAGE/s** 1 of 2

**TITLE** **Honorary Block naming at the Intersection of E 32<sup>nd</sup> St & Hull Street  
Honoring Preston Brown and Kirby Carmichael.**

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

### REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

R. Trammell

### SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Land Use, Housing & Transportation

### ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

The patron requests that legislation be drafted for Council's consideration designating 3100 block of Hull Street in honor of both Preston Brown and Kirby Carmichael.

**BACKGROUND**

Mr. Brown is a civic leader, and a well-known as entrepreneur, newspaperman, broadcaster, and television personality. Mr. Brown was the owner of WCLM – 1450 am Radio Station. It was the last black-owned am radio station in the City and was located on this block. Mr. Brown’s radio station was known for its support for civic groups and for providing free airtime to the City’s Police Department in an effort to make the City safer for all.

Mr. Brown’s station carried a radio show featuring popular Richmond radio personality Kirby Carmichael aka, “the Tall Man of Soul” from this location. Mr. Carmichael is a native of New Jersey who came to Richmond in the late 1960’s.

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Fiscal Impact Yes ☐ No ☒

Budget Amendment Required Yes ☐ No ☒

Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact \$ N/A

Note: Costs of signage are usually absorbed from operating funds of DPW.

Attachment/s Yes ☐ No ☒