

INTRODUCED: June 26, 2023

AN ORDINANCE No. 2023-193

To designate the 2200 block of Bainbridge Street in honor of the late Mrs. Mozelle Willis Minor.

Patron – Mrs. Lynch

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: JUL 24 2023 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Council, early in life, Mrs. Mozelle Willis Minor worked as a parachuter at historic Moton Field, home of the Tuskegee Airmen in Tuskegee, Alabama, and later as a chef at the former Tuskegee Institute, now Tuskegee University; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Council, Mrs. Mozelle Willis Minor later settled in Richmond where she worked at a restaurant on Main Street, at Phillip Morris USA, and as a bus driver for Richmond Public Schools for 30 years; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Council, Mrs. Mozelle Willis Minor was active in the community as a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, the Cook Memorial Choir and Deacon Frank Epps' gospel choir, the Swansboro Civic Association, and the Second Baptist Church in Richmond for 70 years; and

AYES: 7 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: JUL 24 2023 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Council, Mrs. Mozelle Willis Minor, through her work and community activities established a large community of family, friends, and neighbors who cherished her for her kindness and generosity; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to memorialize the life of Mrs. Mozelle Willis Minor for her contributions to the civic life of the city of Richmond by designating the 2200 block of Bainbridge Street 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 (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 2200 block of Bainbridge Street shall be designated in honor of Mrs. Mozelle Willis Minor 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 person.

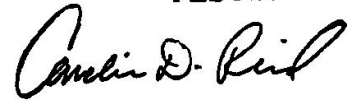
§ 3. **Administration of Ordinance.** The Department of Public Works shall implement this ordinance by installing, as soon as practicable after the adoption of this ordinance, and maintaining commemorative signs in accordance with this section. The commemorative signs shall be clearly distinct from the street signs used to identify the 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 person 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 "Camille D. Reil". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C".

City Clerk



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

THROUGH LaTasha Holmes, Council Chief of Staff

FROM Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst

COPY Stephanie Lynch, 5th District Council Member
Amy Robins, 5th District Liaison
Tabrica Rentz, Deputy City Attorney

DATE June 16, 2023

PAGE/s 1 of 2

TITLE **Honorary block/Street Naming – Honoring the late Mozelle Willis Minor**

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

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

Councilmember Stephanie Lynch

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Land Use, Housing and Transportation
(LUHT) Committee

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

Honorary block/street naming designation honoring the late Mozelle Willis Minor at the 2200 block of Bainbridge Street.

BACKGROUND

This O&R is requesting a honorary street naming for Mrs. Mozelle Willis Minor for the 2200 block of Bainbridge Street.

Mozelle Willis Minor, a beloved and longtime member of the Richmond community, died on November 12, 2020.

In her earlier years, Mozelle Minor worked as a parachuter at the historic Moton Field, home of the Tuskegee Airmen, in Tuskegee, Alabama, and later as a chef at the former Tuskegee Institute, now Tuskegee University. Mozelle Minor then settled in Richmond, where she worked at a restaurant on Main Street, Philip Morris, and later serving 30 years as a bus driver for Richmond Public Schools, establishing a large community of family, friends, and

neighbors.

Mozelle Minor served her community as a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and inspired audiences as a member of both the Cook Memorial Choir and Deacon Frank Epps' gospel choir. Additionally, she was an active member of the Swansboro Civic Association alongside her husband. She was guided throughout her life by her deep and abiding faith, Mozelle Minor enjoyed worship and fellowship with her community at Second Baptist Church in Richmond for 70 years.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Percy, Sr. Mozelle Minor will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by her children, Percy Jr. and Cecil, her grandchildren, Randy, Patrice, Berthinia, and Devon, her sister Frances Clay, and numerous other family members and friends.

Mozelle Willis Minor was a cherished member of the Richmond community whose unwavering kindness and generosity touched countless lives. The block naming is requested to honor her memory.

Source: Biography from the Virginia House Joint Resolution no.688

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact Yes ☒ No ☐

Budget Amendment Required Yes ☐ No ☒

Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact \$ N/A

Note: Generally, cost of signage is paid from DPW's operating budget.

Attachment/s Yes ☒ No ☐