

FILE NUMBER: DCA 178-004

DATE INITIATED: December 14, 2017

TOPIC: Ceremonial street naming

CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS: All

CENSUS TRACTS: All

PROPOSAL: Consideration of amending Article IX of Chapter 51 and Chapter 51A of the Dallas Development Code to create regulations to allow ceremonial street naming.

SUMMARY: The proposal will allow for Ceremonial street naming to honor a city leader by adding a ceremonial plaque as a topper on street signs. The Ceremonial street naming will not change the existing name of the street or addressing or impact emergency services. A Ceremonial street naming topper will be unique in design and style, different from existing street name signs.

SRC RECOMMENDATION: Approval

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval

Background:

Occasionally, City Council Members or community leaders request to rename a street in honor and recognition of the services/contributions of a leader. Currently, this can be done only through the street naming and name change process defined in Division 51A-9.300 of code. Examples of such street name changes are the 200 to 2700 blocks of South Central Expressway changed to Cesar Chavez Street; Education Way changed to Ebby Halliday Road, etc. The street name change is a lengthy process, requiring review from fourteen departments, and impacting both addressing and emergency services.

Cities like Baltimore, Boston, Columbus, Chicago, Greenville, Houston, New York, New Orleans, and San Diego have policies allowing a person to be honored by placing street toppers on existing streets instead of renaming the street. These street toppers are placed on existing streets signs to recognize the services of community leaders.

The intent of the code amended is to provide a simple process which will not impact addressing and emergency services. Ceremonial Street naming would be a process to honor a leader by adding ceremonial plaques as toppers on street signs to designated streets, and will not change the existing name of the street. A Ceremonial Street naming topper will be unique in design and style, different from existing street name signage.

Research/Staff Analysis:

Many cities have policies to honor an individual/groups for their services to local/national life via street naming. These policies are similar to the current City of Dallas Historic Street name change process. This process impacts addressing, and emergency services. Our focus was on a process that honors a leader for their community service and will not impact the impact addressing, and emergency services.

Surrounding cities: Allen, Arlington, Cedar Hill, Duncanville, Fort Worth, Garland, Grand Prairie, Irving, Mesquite, McKinney, Plano and Richardson; and Index cities: San Antonio, Austin, Philadelphia, Phoenix, San Jose, and El Paso, do not have policies for the Ceremonial Street naming that will not impact the addressing and emergency services.

Baltimore, Boston, Columbus, Chicago, Greenville, TX, Houston, New York, New Orleans, and San Diego have policies that honor an individual that has contributed to the local and national life. Their policies outline the petition requirements and are approved by the City Council or by the designated community board. The designs (color, dimension, shape etc.,) of the ceremonial street names are supplemental signs to commemorate a person or organization. A comparative showing the proposed criteria for City of Dallas compared with other cities and pictures of these are included in pages 5-6.

Proposal:

Ceremonial Street Naming commemorates individuals who have made significant contributions to the community, but without causing any disruption of the existing street names.

The proposal is based on research from other cities and the standards for Street Name and Street Name Changes in the Dallas Development Code Division 51A-9.300:

Ceremonial Street Naming criteria:

1. Prospective honorees should have a minimum of 10 years community involvement and have demonstrated an extraordinary and consistent voluntary commitment and dedication to the community, or who have contributed significantly to City of Dallas
2. Prospective honorees must be deceased for at least two years prior to the consideration
3. Individuals who have already been honored are discouraged from being honored on another street
4. City Council, by a three-fourths vote of its members, may waiver the above requirements.

General Provisions:

1. No street or portion of a street may have more than one ceremonial street naming
2. Ceremonial Street naming cannot contain a product or for commercial purpose
3. Ceremonial Street naming will sunset 10 years after the effective date
4. Ceremonial Street naming topper shall have "Honorary" at the top line

Ceremonial Street Naming Application:

1. A Ceremonial Street naming application may be initiated by:
 - a. an owner of property abutting the street in a block by petition: a petition indicating that at least 51 percent of the owners of all lots abutting the street favor the Ceremonial Street naming
 - b. by a council member with concurrence by two other council members.
2. An application for a Ceremonial Street naming must be filed with the department on an application form furnished by the department. The application must include:
 - a. The application fee
 - b. A statement of contributions made by prospective honoree, supporting documents showing the significant contributions made by the prospective honoree and meeting the Ceremonial Street naming criteria
 - c. A map showing the boundary of the street proposed for Ceremonial Street naming

3. Ceremonial Street naming can be changed/removed by an application process and following the same steps as Ceremonial Street naming.

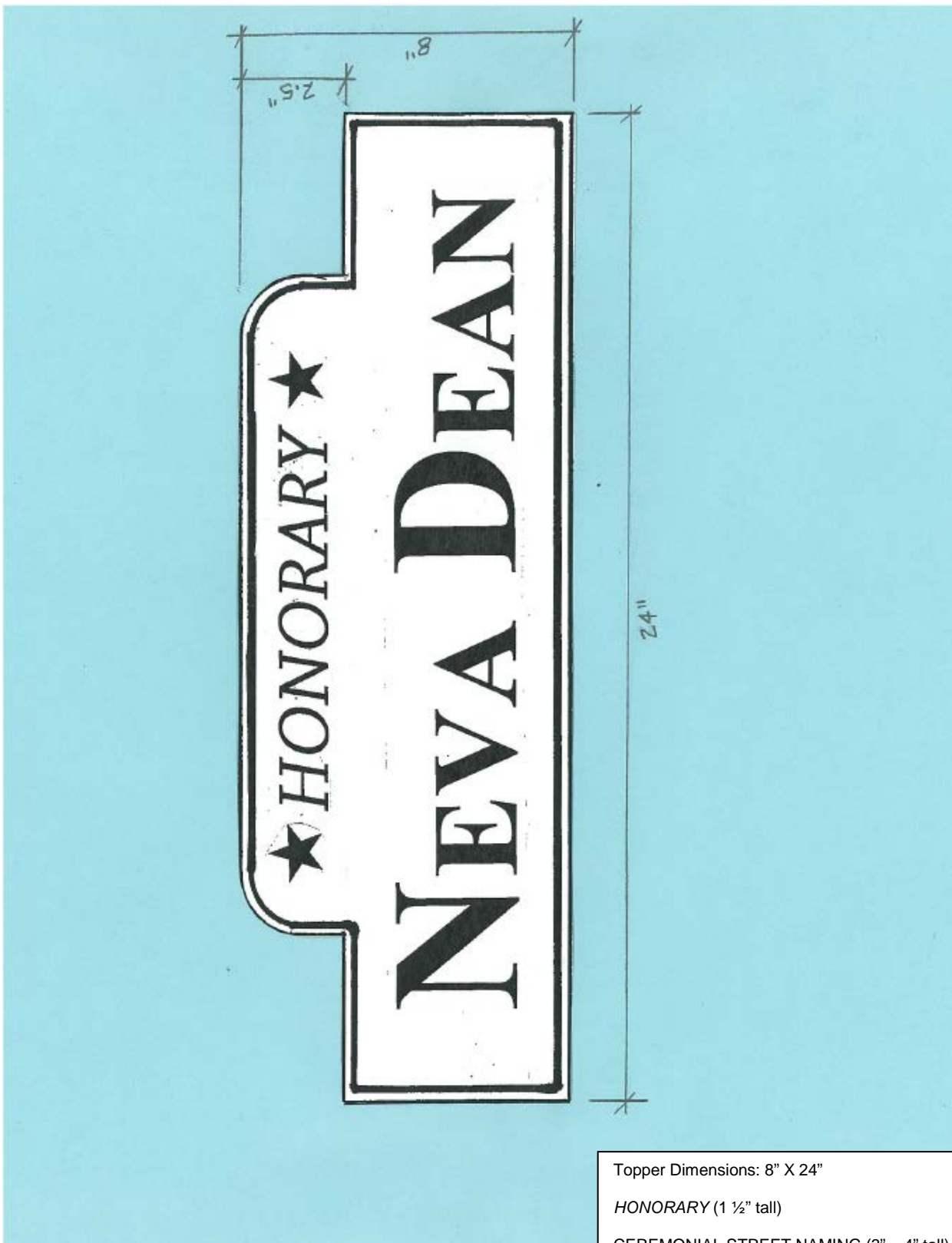
Ceremonial Street Naming Approval Process:

1. Notice of the public hearing before the City Council must be advertised 15 days prior to the hearing and a notice of the public hearing to the abutting property owners shall be mailed no fewer than 15 days prior to the date of the public hearing.
2. City Council may approve or deny the application based on the testimony presented at the public hearing and whether or not it meets the Ceremonial Street naming criteria standards.
3. The favorable vote of three-fourths of all members of the city council is required if:
 - A written protest against the Ceremonial Street naming has been signed by the owners of 20 percent of all lots abutting the street
4. City Council, by a three-fourths vote of its members, may waive the criteria.

Ceremonial Street Naming Implementation and maintenance:

After City Council's approval, the Department is responsible for the installation and implementation of the Ceremonial Street naming sign toppers. An additional fee will be charged to cover the Ceremonial Street name sign toppers for fabrication, mounting brackets and installation. However, the Department is not responsible for replacing the Ceremonial Street name topper due to vandalism, theft, normal wear and tear. Department may remove any Ceremonial Street naming sign topper that have become unsightly without replacing them.

**EXAMPLE
CEREMONIAL STREET NAMING SIGN TOPPER**



Topper Dimensions: 8" X 24"
HONORARY (1 ½" tall)
CEREMONIAL STREET NAMING (3" – 4" tall)

Other cities Ceremonial Street Name Criteria:

	<i>City of Dallas Proposed Regulations</i>	<i>Baltimore</i>	<i>Boston</i>	<i>Columbus</i>	<i>Chicago *</i>	<i>Greenville</i>
Honorees community service and honorees living or deceased	Individuals who have made significant contributions (10 years) to Dallas Prospective honorees deceased	to honor individuals or groups who have contributed to or made a difference in their community	Individual who have made great impact on the surrounding community Honor any person living or deceased	Unknown	individuals that made significant contributions to improving quality of life in the City; and deceased	10 years of local community service names of living person shall not be used
Application by	City Council or 51% approval of all abutting property owners	application and a letters of support from the Council Representative and the Community/Neighborhood Association	for public streets approval by 51% of all abutting property owners; private streets 100% all owners;	Application submitted to the Traffic Management Administrator	Submit the application to Commissioner of Transportation through the Office of Maps and Plats.	City Council or 75% approval of all abutting property
Approval by	approval by City Council	Department of Transportation (DOT), ROW Special Events Section, Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods, Police Department and Fire Department	approved by resolution of the City Council	Sign Engineer	approval by City Council	approval by City Council
Multiple naming on the same street is allowed	Not allowed	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Limitation on number of blocks/section of the streets to be honored	No restrictions	only one sign and for a temporary period of one year	one intersection and demarcated with a single honorific sign and plaque	only one sign and for a temporary period of one year	Unknown	unknown
Cost and Design Standards	Yes	Y	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
* not an Index City						

DCA 178-004 (VP)

	City of Dallas Proposed Regulations	Houston	New York *	New Orleans*	San Diego
Honorees community service and honorees living or deceased	Individuals who have made significant contributions (10 years) to Dallas Prospective honorees deceased	Contributions to the community Deceased	Local and National commitment: 10 Community Service for individuals; 30 years for organization Prospective honorees must be deceased	a person who has made a demonstrable and significant positive impact on the city, state or country	individual and organizations that made significant contributions to improving quality of life in the City;
Application by	City Council or 51% approval of all abutting property owners	submit an application to the Transportation Department	Application to the Manhattan's Community Board and approval by the City Council. A petition signed by a minimum of 150 people, who live in 2 block radius	A letter with the meeting the minimum criteria of the honorary street dedication is sent to the Council Member or Council Members	City Council or 100% of all abutting property owners, for less than 100% as decision made by the City Council
Approval by	approval by City Council	approval by the City Council	City Council	approval by City Council	City Council may honor sections of streets
Multiple naming on the same street is allowed	Not allowed	Unknown	Discouraged	Unknown	Unknown
Limitation on number of blocks/section of the streets to be honored	No restrictions	only for local streets and limited to one block	No restrictions	unknown	not to exceed one block in length
Cost and Design Standards	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
* not an Index City					

Street Sign Toppers in City of Dallas:



Subdivision Review Committee (SRC) Meeting Minutes December 14, 2017
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Motion to amend the Dallas Development Code to create regulations to allow ceremonial street naming as proposed, add a sunset period of 10 years and include “Honorary” on the top line of the ceremonial street naming sign.

Motion: Ridley
2nd: Carpenter

Result: Passed: 7-0
For: Jung, Houston, Ridley, Rieves, West, Carpenter and Lavallaisaa
Against: none
Absent: none

DRAFT Ceremonial Street Naming

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Chapter 51, "Dallas Development Code: Ordinance No. 10962, as amended," **[and/or]** Chapter 51A, "Dallas Development Code: Ordinance No. 19455, as amended," of the Dallas City Code by amending Section _____; providing (description of amendment); providing a penalty not to exceed \$2,000; providing a saving clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the city plan commission and the city council, in accordance with the Charter of the City of Dallas, the state law, and the ordinances of the City of Dallas, have given the required notices and have held the required public hearings regarding this amendment to the Dallas City Code; Now, Therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:

SECTION 1. That Article IX, "Thoroughfares," of Chapter 51, "Dallas Development Code: Ordinance No. 10962, as amended," of the Dallas City Code is amended by adding Division 51-9.500, "Ceremonial Street Naming," to read as follows:

"Division 51-9.500. Ceremonial Street Naming.

This division incorporates by reference the language of Division 51A-9.500 of Chapter 51A of the Dallas Development Code, as amended."

SECTION 2. That Subsection (I), "Fees for a Street Name Change," of Section 51A-1.105, "Fees," of Article I, "General Provisions," of Chapter 51A, "Dallas Development Code: Ordinance No. 19455, as amended," of the Dallas City Code is amended by adding a new Paragraph (3), "Fee for Ceremonial Street Naming," to read as follows:

(3) Fee for ceremonial street naming toppers.

Application cost XXXX

SECTION 3. That Article IX, "Thoroughfares," of Chapter 51A, "Dallas Development Code: Ordinance No. 19455, as amended," of the Dallas City Code is amended by adding a new Division 51A-9.500, "Ceremonial Street Naming," to read as follows:

"Division 51A-9.500. Ceremonial Street Naming.

SEC. 51A-9.501. PURPOSE.

To commemorate individuals who have made significant contributions to the community, but without causing any disruption of the existing street names and abutting uses.

SEC. 51A-9.502. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

(a) Only public street names may be granted ceremonial street naming by the process contained in this division.

(b) A ceremonial street naming application may be initiated only by:

(1) an owner of property abutting the street if with a petition showing 51 percent of the owners of all abutting lots are in support; or

(2) a city council member with concurrence of two other council members.

(c) Ceremonial street names must be a person's name.

SEC. 51A-9.503. PROCESS.

(a) Application. An application for a ceremonial street naming must be filed with the department on an application form furnished by that department. The application must include the following:

(1) The application fee.

(2) A statement of the reasons supporting a ceremonial street naming including a showing that the prospective honoree had a minimum of 10 years community involvement and demonstrated an extraordinary and consistent voluntary commitment and dedication to the community, or has contributed significantly to City of Dallas.

(3) A map showing the location of the street.

(b) Notice.

(1) Before the public hearing before the city council the director shall give notice of the public hearing in the official newspaper of the city at least 10 days before the hearing.

(2) Notice of the public hearing must be given to the abutting property owners not less than 15 days before the date set for the hearing by depositing the notice properly addressed and postage paid in the United States mail to the property owners as evidenced by the last approved tax roll. This notice must be written in English and Spanish if the area of request is located wholly or partly within a census tract in which 50 percent or more of the inhabitants are persons of Spanish origin or descent according to the most recent federal decennial census.

(c) Public hearing. The city council may approve the application based on the testimony presented at the public hearing and meeting the ceremonial street naming criteria standards by a majority vote of the members present except, the favorable vote of three-fourths of all members of the city council is required if a written protest against the ceremonial street naming has been signed by the owners of 20 percent of all lots abutting the street.

(d) Early removal. To remove a ceremonial street name the same application, notice, and hearing process shall be followed.

SEC. 51A-9.504. STANDARDS FOR CEREMONIAL STREET NAMING

(a) In general.

(1) Except as provided in this subsection:

(A) Prospective honorees must have had a minimum of 10 years community involvement and demonstrated an extraordinary and consistent voluntary commitment and dedication to the community, or have contributed significantly to the City of Dallas.

(B) Use of a ceremonial street naming is prohibited until at least two years after the death of the person to be honoured.

(C) Individuals who have already been honored on one street, whether ceremonial or official, may not be honored on another street.

(2) The standards in this subsection may be waived by a three quarters vote of the city council.

(b) Additional standards.

- (1) Ceremonial Street naming cannot contain a product or for commercial purpose.
- (2) A ceremonial street naming topper must have "Honorary" as the top line.
- (3) No street or portion of a street may have more than one ceremonial street naming.

SEC. 51A-9.505. NOTIFICATION OF CEREMONIAL STREET NAMING.

If the request for a ceremonial name change is approved by the city council, the subdivision administrator shall send written notice of the city council's action to abutting property owners.

SEC. 51A-9.506. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CEREMONIAL STREET NAMING AND END DATE.

Providing that all required fees have been paid by the applicant, a ceremonial street naming approved by the city council takes effect 60 days after the date of its approval unless city council sets a later effective date. The ceremonial street naming ends 10 years after the effective date.

SEC. 51A-9.507. INSTALLATION AND REPLACEMENT.

(a) Installation. The department is responsible for the installation and implementation of the ceremonial street naming toppers within_XXXXXX days. They will provide the dimension, design, and colors schemes that uniquely identify the ceremonial street naming toppers.

(b) Removal. The department is not responsible for replacing ceremonial street naming toppers due to vandalism, theft, and normal wear and tear. The department may remove any ceremonial street naming topper that has become unsightly without replacing them."

SECTION 4. That adjustments will be made to the section references in this ordinance for codification purposes only. A Dallas Development Code section reference

containing the symbol “[A],” for example, “Section 51[A]-____,” means that the letter “A” will appear in the Chapter 51A version only, and will not appear in the Chapter 51 version.

SECTION 5. That a person violating a provision of this ordinance, upon conviction, is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$2,000.

SECTION 6. That Chapter(s) (51 and) 51A of the Dallas City Code shall remain in full force and effect, save and except as amended by this ordinance.

SECTION 7. That any act done or right vested or accrued, or any proceeding, suit, or prosecution had or commenced in any action before the amendment or repeal of any ordinance, or part thereof, shall not be affected or impaired by amendment or repeal of any ordinance, or part thereof, and shall be treated as still remaining in full force and effect for all intents and purposes as if the amended or repealed ordinance, or part thereof, had remained in force.

SECTION 8. That the terms and provisions of this ordinance are severable and are governed by Section 1-4 of Chapter 1 of the Dallas City Code, as amended.

SECTION 9. That this ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage and publication in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so ordained.

DCA 178-004 (VP)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

LARRY E. CASTO, City Attorney

By _____
Assistant City Attorney

Passed _____