

DALLAS DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENT**FILE NO. DCA 178-004**

Ceremonial Street Naming**Planner: Vasavi Pilla****Request:**

Consideration of amending the Dallas Development Code to create regulations to allow ceremonial street naming.

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. Research on these cities is included on page 3.

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 4-6.

Staff Proposal:

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

Staff has proposed the following criteria for the Ceremonial Street names based on the research from other cities and in the Dallas Development Code Division 51A-9.300, Standards for Street Name and Street Name Changes:

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
Note: City Council, by a three-fourths vote of its members, may waive the above requirements.

General Provisions:

1. No more than two Ceremonial street toppers are allowed on a single street sign
2. A street or portion of the street that has Ceremonial Street naming street toppers is not permitted to have multiple ceremonial street names
3. Ceremonial Street naming cannot contain a product or for commercial purpose
4. Ceremonial Street naming toppers can be installed only at locations with existing street signs
5. Street topper design will limit the number of characters allowed on the Ceremonial Street naming topper based on the topper design designated by the Department.

Ceremonial Street Naming Application:

1. A Ceremonial Street naming application may be initiated by:
 - 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
 - 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 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 meeting 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. They will provide the dimension, design, and colors schemes that uniquely identify 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.

Other Cities Research:

Ceremonial Street Naming in surrounding cities:

	Allen	Arlington	Cedar Hill	Duncanville	Fort Worth	Garland	Grand Prairie	Iring	Mesquite	McKinney	Piano	Richardson
Honorary or Ceremonial Streets are allowed	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
If Allowed:												
Ceremonial street name process is different from the regular street name/street name change process?												
Application process												
Application Fee												
Design requirements												

Ceremonial Street Naming in index cities:

	Austin	Baltimore	Boston	Chicago *	Columbus	El Paso	Fort Worth	Greenville, TX	Houston	New York *	New Orleans*	Philadelphia	Phoenix	San Diego	San Jose	San Antonio
Honorary or Ceremonial Streets are allowed	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N
If Allowed:																
Ceremonial street name process is different from the regular street name/street name change process?		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y				Y		
Application process		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y				Y		
Application Fee		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y				Y		
Design requirements		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y				Y		

* not an Index City

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>
Honorees community service and honorees living or deceased	Individuals who have made significant contributions (10 years) to Dallas Prospective honorees living or 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
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.
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
Multiple naming on the same street is allowed	Not allowed	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
Cost and Design Standards	Yes	Y	Yes	Yes	Yes
* not an Index City					

	<i>Greenville *</i>	<i>Houston</i>	<i>New York *</i>	<i>New Orleans*</i>	<i>San Diego</i>
Honorees community service and honorees living or deceased	10 years of local community service names of living person shall not be used	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 75% approval of all abutting property	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 of the proposed co-naming	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	Unknown	Unknown	Discouraged	Unknown	Unknown
Limitation on number of blocks/section of the streets to be honored	unknown	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					

Ceremonial Street naming signs:

New York City Co-street name



The street signs on the southwest corner of 84th Street and Central Park West are seen following a ceremony to permanently co-name the street with the late humanitarian and Nobel Peace Prize-winning name of Elie Wiesel, June 13, 2017 in New York. (AFP/ Kena Betancur)

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/new-york-names-street-corner-after-elie-wiesel/>

Chicago City Honorary Street Name:



A ceremonial street sign honoring Saul Bellow is posted at Augusta Boulevard and Rockwell Street, as well as at Augusta and Washtenaw, in Chicago's Humboldt Park neighborhood. (Nancy Stone / Chicago Tribune)

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/editorials/ct-chicago-honorary-street-signs-beal2-hefner-hampton-edit1216-jm-20161215-story.html>

San Diego City Honorary Street Name:



<http://www.adventuresbydaddy.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Mark-Hamill-San-Diego-by-Brian-Sims-32.jpg>