

KEY FOCUS AREA: Economic Vibrancy
AGENDA DATE: October 11, 2016
COUNCIL DISTRICT(S): All
DEPARTMENT: Trinity Watershed Management
Mayor and City Council
CMO: Mark McDaniel, 670-3256
A. C. Gonzalez, 670-3297
MAPSCO: 45N

SUBJECT

A resolution naming Union Station in honor of Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
- Financing: No cost consideration to the City

BACKGROUND

In 1992, Eddie Bernice Johnson became the first African American woman to represent Dallas in the United States House of Representatives. Congresswoman Johnson is currently serving a twelfth term representing the citizens of Dallas, and serves as the Ranking Member on the House Science, Space and Technology Committee and as a senior member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

The Dallas-Fort Worth area has benefited tremendously from Congresswoman Johnson's commitment and responsiveness to the concerns of citizens, business leaders, and local elected officials. She has served as a tireless advocate for Dallas, and has been instrumental in securing significant legislation and funding for Dallas priorities, including:

- A landmark \$700 million Full Funding Grant Agreement by the Federal Transit Administration - the largest ever awarded to DART - to build the 28-mile Green Line, which was completed on-time and on-budget on December 6, 2010
- \$26 million in Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant funds from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the construction of the Dallas Streetcar Project, connecting Downtown Dallas to Oak Cliff
- Language in the 2011 FAA Reauthorization Act to allow the use of Passenger Facility Funds for intermodal airport access projects
- Strong, perennial support for the Contract Tower at Dallas Executive Airport
- Wright Amendment repeal compromise legislation and federal funding for the Love Field Modernization Project

BACKGROUND (Continued)

- Over \$220 million in federal funding to date for the Trinity River Corridor Project, as well as a \$459 million authorization for the Dallas Floodway Project in the 2007 Water Resources Development Act
- Funding for critical local government programs in the areas of community development, affordable housing, homeland security, local law enforcement, and historic preservation, resulting in tens of millions annually to the City of Dallas
- Support for local control, allowing local government to effectively represent and serve its citizens

Naming Union Station in Downtown Dallas in honor of Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson would acknowledge and thank her for her relentless efforts toward improving Dallas and her outstanding, innovative, and impactful work on behalf of local governments throughout the North Central Texas region, the State of Texas, and around the country.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (COUNCIL, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS)

This item will be discussed at the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee on October 10, 2016.

FISCAL INFORMATION

No cost consideration to the City

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WHEREAS, Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson became the first woman and first African American to represent the Dallas, Texas area in the United States House of Representatives when she was elected in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Johnson is now in her twelfth term representing the citizens of the 30th Congressional District of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Johnson has been a tenacious and tireless advocate for the citizens, business community, and governmental entities in North Central Texas; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Johnson currently serves as the Ranking Member on the House Science, Space and Technology Committee, and serves as a senior Member on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, where she is renowned for her efforts to improve and modernize our nation's transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Johnson has championed and helped secure critical funding for transportation projects in the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area and was one of the leading Members of Congress to successfully advocate for increased allocation of federal surface transportation funds to metropolitan and urbanized areas, resulting in tens of millions annually in transportation funding to the Dallas/Fort Worth area; and

WHEREAS, thanks in large part to Congresswoman Johnson's unwavering support, in 2006 Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) received a landmark \$700 million Full Funding Grant Agreement by the Federal Transit Administration - the largest ever awarded to DART - to build the 28-mile Green Line, which was completed on-time and on-budget on December 6, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Johnson was instrumental in securing \$26 million in Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant funds from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the construction of the Dallas Streetcar Project, connecting Downtown Dallas to Oak Cliff; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Johnson authored language in the 2011 FAA Reauthorization Act to allow the use of Passenger Facility Funds for intermodal airport access projects; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Johnson has provided strong, perennial support for the Contract Tower at Dallas Executive Airport; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Johnson helped broker the Wright Amendment repeal compromise and then worked with the City and FAA to secure federal funding for the Love Field Modernization Project; and

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WHEREAS, for many years Congresswoman Johnson has served as a champion for the Trinity River Corridor, working tirelessly to help secure over \$220 million in federal funding to date, as well as a \$459 million authorization for the Dallas Floodway Project, which will provide critically needed flood control for Dallas; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Johnson has recognized the need for increased livability and improving connectivity between citizens, employment centers, major destinations, established neighborhoods and emerging neighborhoods - offering tremendous redevelopment potential and positive environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Johnson has worked vigorously to protect funding for critical local government programs in the areas of community development, affordable housing, homeland security, local law enforcement, and historic preservation; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Johnson has been a staunch supporter of local control, allowing local government to effectively represent and serve its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Dallas-Fort Worth area has benefited tremendously from Congresswoman Johnson's commitment; responsiveness to the concerns of citizens, business leaders, and local elected officials; relentless efforts toward improving Dallas; and her outstanding, innovative, and impactful work on behalf of local governments throughout the North Central Texas region, the State of Texas, and around the country.

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. That Union Station is to be named in honor of Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson.

Section 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so resolved.