

AN ORDINANCE WHEREIN THE CITY OF WILMINGTON ACCEPTS THE DEDICATION OF FOUR STREETS AT THE RIVERFRONT, NAMING THEM “JUDY JOHNSON DRIVE,” “SOUTH MADISON STREET,” “SHIPYARD DRIVE,” AND “FRAWLEY DRIVE”

#0011

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Harlee**

WHEREAS, Sections 1-101, 2-306, and 5-400 of the City Charter and Section 42-11 of the City Code authorize the City of Wilmington (the “City”) to establish and revise plans of streets and alleys in accordance with applicable provisions of State law; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-3 of the City Code authorizes the City by ordinance to name and rename streets reserved for public use in order to commemorate persons, places or events of historical, cultural, governmental or social significance to the City, its residents, neighborhoods, and communities after receipt by City Council of the recommendation of the City Planning Commission (the “CPC”) after its review; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, it was originally requested that a proposed street extending from Beech Street at the Wilmington Waterfront to the boundary of the City and County in South Wilmington be named “Peterson Drive,” after the former deceased Governor of Delaware, that request resulting in the adoption on December 17, 2019 by the CPC of Resolution 16-19, recommending City Council accept the dedication and name four new city streets, including one named “Peterson Drive”; and

WHEREAS, at the same meeting on December 17, 2019, the CPC by Resolution 16-19 also recommended the acceptance of the dedication and the naming of three additional streets: (1) an extension of South Madison Street southwest from its intersection with Beech Street a distance of approximately 475 feet to a proposed four-way intersection with Frawley Drive and Shipyard Drive, ending at that location; (2) a partial relocation of Shipyard Drive to begin at the proposed four-way intersection with Frawley Drive and South Madison Street

extending approximately 2000 feet to a proposed three-way intersection with Peterson Drive; and (3) Frawley Drive, a new street extending approximately 840 feet from its proposed three-way intersection with Justison Street to the proposed three-way intersection with Peterson Drive; and

WHEREAS, the Riverfront Development Corporation, after consultation with City Council, the Office of the Mayor and City Departments, amended their request, asking that “Peterson Drive” be instead named “Judy Johnson Drive” in honor of the late African American baseball player, William Julius “Judy” Johnson, who spent the early part of his life in the City of Wilmington; and

WHEREAS, following review by the Department of Planning and Development, the CPC on October 20, 2020, adopted Resolution 19-20 which recommends to City Council that a new 1.48 mile City street extending from Beech Street to the boundary of the City with the County be named “Judy Johnson Drive”; and

WHEREAS, the CPC on October 20, 2020 in Resolution 19-20 restated and adopted anew the dedication and naming recommendations to City Council of its earlier Resolution 16-19 regarding the extensions of existing streets South Madison Street and Shipyard Drive as well as the naming of the new street “Frawley Drive” that is located directly adjacent to the Daniel S. Frawley Baseball Stadium, named in 1994 after the late Daniel S. Frawley, who served as mayor of the City of Wilmington from 1985 to 1993; and

WHEREAS, there are no findings to suggest that acceptance of the proposed rights-of-way would be detrimental to the surrounding properties or public safety; and

WHEREAS, the new city streets would be located as depicted in CPC Resolution 19-20, and, once the new streets are built to all City standards and all requirements of the Department of Public Works, they will be dedicated and conveyed to the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it desirable and appropriate to accept these four street dedications with names recommended by the CPC to be added it to the Official City Map.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. The acceptance of the street dedications of two extended City streets to continue their current names of “South Madison Street” and “Shipyard Drive,” one new City street to be named “Frawley Drive,” and one new City street to be named “Judy Johnson Drive,” all public rights-of-way depicted in the “Revised City Map” of CPC Resolution 19-20, is hereby approved; and the Official City Map may, therefore, be amended to reflect these dedicated City streets and their ordained names.

SECTION 2. All City departments are hereby authorized to take any and all necessary actions required for proposed acceptance of the dedication of the new public rights-of-way and their addition to the Official City Map.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its date of passage by the City Council and approval by the Mayor.

First Reading January 21, 2021
Second Reading January 21, 2021
Third Reading

Passed by City Council,

President of City Council

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2021.

Mayor

SYNOPSIS: This Ordinance accepts the dedication of four streets in the Riverfront District of Wilmington, naming them “Judy Johnson Drive,” “South Madison Street,” “Shipyard Drive,” and “Frawley Drive.”

FISCAL IMPACT: This Ordinance has no significant anticipated fiscal impact.

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