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OAKLAND

2019 SEP 12 AM 4:11

# AGENDA REPORT

**DATE:** September 4, 2019

**TO:** Oakland City Council

**FROM:** Vice Mayor Larry E. Reid

**SUBJECT:** Commemorative Naming of A street as Reverend J. Alfred Smith Sr. Way  
REVISED

## RECOMMENDATION

Vice Mayor Larry Reid recommends that the City Council adopt:

**RESOLUTION COMMEMORATIVELY RENAMING "A" STREET BETWEEN 85<sup>th</sup> and 86<sup>th</sup> AVENUES REV. DR. J. ALFRED SMITH SR. WAY WHICH FOLLOWS THE PROCESS OUTLINED AND ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION No. 77967 C.M.S.**

## SUMMARY

Vice Mayor Larry Reid, Councilmember representing the 7<sup>th</sup> District supports the commemorative naming of A street to Rev. Dr. J. Alfred Smith Sr. Way. in alignment with the established process outlined by Resolution No. 77967 C.M.S.

The Resolution "**RESOLUTION COMMEMORATIVELY RENAMING "A" STREET BETWEEN 85<sup>th</sup> and 86<sup>th</sup> AVENUES REV. Dr. J. ALFRED SMITH SR. WAY**" fulfils the criteria and intent of the commemorative street renaming process to honor citizens who have made exemplary contributions to the residents of Oakland as set forth in the City Council Resolution No. 77967 C.M.S.

## OUTCOME

The legislation will mandate the City Administrator and Department of Transportation of the City of Oakland to advance all of the appropriate and necessary procedures which align with Resolution No. 77967 C.M.S. and the commemorative designation of Rev. Dr. J. Alfred Smith Sr. Way and the placement of sign (s) or plaque (s) to the effect on A street between 85<sup>th</sup> and 86<sup>th</sup> Avenues.

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City Council (or Committee)  
Meeting Date

### **LEGISLATIVE HISTORY**

Allen Temple Baptist Church will be commemorating a historic 100th Year Anniversary in the City of Oakland on October 5, 2019. Residents of the East Oakland community, Allen Temple Baptist Church congregates, administrative staff, church ministry and leadership advanced a written request to Vice Mayor Larry Reid to commemoratively renamed A street between 85<sup>th</sup> and 86<sup>th</sup> Avenue in honor of Reverend Dr. J. Alfred Smith Sr. in accordance with the City of Oakland street renaming process, which will also coincide with the centennial celebration of Allen Temple Baptist Church.

### **WILL BE CELEBRATING**

Allen Temple Baptist Church will be hosting a historical Centennial Anniversary in addition to honoring Dr. J. Alfred Smith Sr. Dr. J. Alfred Smith, has attained national and international prominence and achievements, his significant contributions and dedication to providing housing, economic development and vitality along the International Blvd corridor has positively impacted the quality of lives in the Oakland Community and those mentored under his leadership.

### **BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY**

#### **Rev. Dr. J. Alfred Smith The Honoree:**

Dr. J. Alfred Smith graduated from R.T. Coles High School in Kansas City in 1948 and obtained his license to preach in the same year

Dr. J. Alfred Smith was called to the ministry in 1951. In 1952, he received his B.S. degree in Elementary Education from Western Baptist College. Reverend Smith Also received his Bachelor's Degree in divinity in 1959 from the Missouri School of Religion and his Master's Degree in Theology, Church, and Community in 1966. He also earned his master's degree in American Church History from the American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkeley, California in 1972. Reverend Smith earned his Doctor of Ministry Degree from the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Simi Valley, California in 1975.

Dr. J. Alfred Smith was named senior pastor of Allen Temple Baptist Church in Oakland, California's in 1971. He was elected president of the Progressive Baptist State Convention of California in 1979, and President of the Progressive National Baptist Convention in 1986. Rev. Smith joined the teaching faculty at the American Baptist Seminary of the West as Professor of Christian Ministries in 1992. He is the author of several books including "On the Jericho Road: A Memoir of Racial Justice, Social Action and Prophetic Ministry," "Speak until Justice Wakes: Prophetic Reflections", and most recently Sounding the Trumpet: How Churches Can Answer God's Call to Justice.

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Dr. J. Alfred Smith Presented his body of works at the Conference on Church and Social Action most recently in 2015 in Columbia, Missouri

Dr. Smith is well known for his community work in Oakland, the Greater Bay Area and international delegations to address health needs in third world countries. Under his leadership Reverend Smith has received several awards and honors for his work. The Oakland Tribune named Dr. Smith the Outstanding Citizen of the Year in 1990. In 2001, he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Greenling Institute, a public policy organization in Berkeley, California. The East Bay Agency for Children awarded Dr. Smith the Humanitarian of the Year Award in 2001. The East Bay Agency for Children awarded Dr. Smith the Humanitarian of the Year. Dr. J. Alfred Smith is known for establishing senior housing in East Oakland, fulfilling health care needs for residents in East Oakland, feeding the hungry and working very closely with the diverse Oakland community. He is nationally renowned for his stance on human rights and justice.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The funds for the manufacturing and associated cost to place the sign " Dr. J. Alfred Smith Way" will come from the office of Councilmember Larry Reid

#### **PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST**

There are three existing properties on "A" Street. **However since the naming of the street is only ceremonial in nature,** none of the three would be negatively impacted

#### **COORDINATION**

This report has been reviewed by Department of Transportation

#### **SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES**

##### ***Economic:***

The signs will be installed by the Department of Transportation

##### ***Environmental:***

No permits required for installing street signs

***Social Equity:***

The resolution intends to promote community leadership, civic engagement, and partnerships to promote social equity by memorializing historic events relative to community leadership. Dr. J. Alfred Sr. has attained national and international prominence through his many achievements, significant contributions, dedication to the Oakland Community. Providing housing, economic development and vitality along the International Blvd corridor has positively impacted the quality of lives in the Oakland Community under his leadership.

**CEQA**

The naming of a new public street or the renaming of an existing public street is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970

For questions regarding the report please contact Iris Merriouns,  
Office of Vice Mayor Larry Reid  
510 238-7578

Respectfully submitted,

Vice Mayor Larry E. Reid  
Councilmember District 7

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Prepared by:  
Iris Merriouns

*Office of Vice Mayor Larry Reid*

Attachments (#):

Item: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Council (or Committee)  
Meeting Date

Revised

Approved as to Form and Legality

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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OAKLAND

**DRAFT**

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City Attorney's Office

# OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.**

**INTRODUCED BY VICE MAYOR LARRY REID**

**RESOLUTION COMMEMORATIVELY RENAMING "A" STREET BETWEEN 85<sup>th</sup> and 86<sup>th</sup> AVENUES REV. DR. J. ALFRED SMITH SR. WAY WHICH FOLLOWS THE PROCESS OUTLINED AND ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION No. 77967 C.M.S.**

**WHEREAS**, under the procedures outlined by the companion Resolutions No.77966 and 77967 the City Council may commemorate a nominee either by: a) retaining the existing street name and installing commemorative plaques or b) renaming the existing street for the individual and installing new street signs; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council in 2003 established procedures for commemorative street naming through Resolution No. 77967 C.M.S under which the City Council may, by its own motion, consider the renaming of a public street as a tribute to an individual, or as a result of a significant event or activity and one of the following conditions is met:  
• the individual has positively impacted the lives of a nation or the world; or • the name change is related to an economic development or redevelopment activity; or • the renaming commemorates a significant historical event; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of Vice Mayor Larry Reid finds that the life and legacy of Dr. J. Alfred Smith Sr., should be honored and recognized as established by Res. No 77967 in that Reverend Smith was called to the ministry in 1951, received his B.S. degree in Elementary Education from Western Baptist College, and Bachelor's Degree in divinity in 1959, Master's Degree in Theology, in 1966. Second master's degree in American Church History in 1972, and Doctor of Ministry Degree in 1975.

Reverend Smith was named senior pastor of Allen Temple Baptist Church in Oakland, California's in 1971, elected president of the Progressive Baptist State Convention of California in 1979 Reverend Smith has received several awards and honors for his outstanding work.

Dr. Smith is nationally known for his community work in Oakland, the Greater Bay Area and international delegations to address health needs in third world countries.

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Smith is well known for his community work in Oakland and the Bay Area. Under his leadership Allen Temple Church began establishing senior housing in East Oakland, fulfilling health care needs for residents throughout the City of Oakland, ; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Smith has a national presence for his community work in Oakland, the Greater Bay Area and international delegations to address health needs in third world countries. Reverend Smith has received several awards and honors for his work.; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council intends to honor Dr. J. Alfred Smith Sr. highlighting his contributions to Oakland by retaining the existing street name and installing a commemorative plaque or signs and intends that the costs associated with such a commemorative act will be borne by the office of Councilmember Larry Reid City of Oakland; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That the Council of the City of Oakland hereby approves the commemorative renaming of A Street between 85th and 86<sup>th</sup> Ave; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That that the City Council determines that the proposal for "Rev. Dr. J. Alfred Smith Sr. Way " fulfills the criteria and intent of the commemorative street naming program to honor citizens who have made exemplary contributions to the residents of Oakland as set forth in City Council Resolution No. 77967 C.M.S.; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Oakland City Council directs the City Administrator to proceed with the commemorative designation of Rev. Dr. J. Alfred Smith Sr. Way and placement of sign(s) or plaque(s) to that effect on A do Street between 85th and 86<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

AYES - BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, TAYLOR, THAO, REID and PRESIDENT KAPLAN

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

