City of Detroit
CITY COUNCIL
HISTORIC DESIGNATION ADVISORY BOARD
218 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Detroit, Michigan 48226
Phone: 313. 224.3487  Fax: 313. 224.4336
e-mail: historic@detroitmi.gov

March 11, 2019

HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL

RE: Petition #167 Secondary Street Sign for Rev. Earnest O. King, Sr

The family of Reverend Earnest O. King Sr and the members of Mt Calvary Baptist Church submitted a petition requesting that the intersection of East State Fair Avenue and Riopelle Street be assigned the secondary street name the Rev. Earnest O. King Sr. Street in celebration of his contributions to the city of Detroit and the East State Fair neighborhood. Upon review of the documentation submitted by the petitioner staff has concluded that the petition does meet the criteria for Secondary Naming of Street in accordance with Article VII Sections50-7-31 through Sections 50-7-50 of the 1984 Detroit City Code.

Criteria

As stated in Chapter 50 of the 1984 Detroit City Code, Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places, Article VII, Opening, closing, Extending, Widening, Vacating, Naming and Renaming of Streets and Assigning Secondary Names to Streets. A secondary street name designation may be sought to recognize a person who achieved prominence as a result of his or her significant, position, contributions to the City of Detroit, State of Michigan, the United States of America, or the international community.

1. Sites, buildings, structures where cultural, social, spiritual, economic, political, architectural history of the community, city, state or nation is particularly reflected or exemplified.
2. Sites, buildings, structures, which are identified with historic personages or with important events in the community, city, state or national history.

Attached for you review and consideration is a resolution setting the required public hearing as well as a resolution which will authorize the establishment of a Secondary Street Name in honor of Reverend Earnest O. King Sr. upon the conclusion of a favorable public hearing, which must be held in accordance with Section 50-7-35 of the Detroit City Code.

Staff is available to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

Janese Chapman, Deputy Director, Historic Designation Advisory Board

Attachments
RESOLUTION

BY COUNCIL MEMBER ________________________________

Resolved, That a public hearing will be held by the Detroit City Council Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee in the Committee of the Whole Room, 13th Floor of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center on Thursday, ____________, 2019 at ________ a.m., for the purpose of considering the request of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church requesting the secondary street name in honor of Reverend Earnest O. King, Sr. in the area of East State Fair Street and Riopelle Avenue to “Rev. Earnest O. King Sr.”
July 23, 2018

Mrs. Brenda Jones, President, Detroit City Council
2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1340
Detroit, Michigan 49226

Dear President Jones:

As President of the Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity, Inc., I write this correspondence in support of the effort of a designated street sign for The Reverend Earnest O. King, Sr.

Over 25 years, Reverend King has served as a faithful member of The Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity, Inc. with honor and respect for Church and Community. He has served in many areas of ministry and programs over the years and considered as a vital member of this Body and community, specifically the City of Detroit.

Reverend King currently serves as the Chair of the Benevolent Committee which he has held this position for the last 20 years giving pastoral support of all Council members in times of distress and bereavement.

Under the Council, Reverend King is a Board Member of the Coalition for Black and Jewish Unity and highly recognized in the Council as a master of planning and community activism. The Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity, Inc. supports recognizing this mighty man of God and supports the effort of his Congregation it making it so.

As President, the privilege of having to submit this request gives the Council honor in knowing how deserving Reverend King really is to have a street sign named in his honor gives us great joy.

The Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity, Inc. respectfully request that the City of Detroit City Council would approve our request of having a street named in his honor.

Respectfully,

Reverend Dr. Deedee M. Coleman

Reverend Dr. Deedee M. Coleman, President
Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity, Inc.
Palestine Missionary Baptist Church
15787 Wyoming Ave.
Detroit, Michigan 48238

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www.palestinembc detroit.org

Ronald C. Burks, Senior Pastor

August 20, 2018

To Whom it May Concern,

I am delighted to support the very worthy request regarding having a street sign named in the honor of the Rev., Dr. Earnest King, the esteemed Pastor of the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church located at 1720 East State Fair Street, in the City of Detroit.

Dr. King is a pillar of the community, having given leadership to the Mt. Calvary church for over 40 years, he is very active in engaging with the community to make it a better place to live and rear children. He is an enthusiastic supporter and encourager to our first responders, he has demonstrated concerns about the safety of the people in the surrounding community. He has assigned gifted personnel to assist in the leadership of recreational activities, neighborhood clubs and the like. Has allowed the church building to accommodate meetings to promote the common good of all.

Dr. King, though a very humble man is well respected among his peers, as he serves in meaningful and prestigious positions in the Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity, Calvary Baptist District Association, Wolverine Baptist State Convention and Congress of Christian Education as well as other civic organizations.

Our community would not be the same without the leadership and vision of Rev., Dr. Earnest King, one who is deserving of such a great honor,

In HIS service,

Pastor Ron Burks,
August 20, 2018

The Street Sign Committee and
The City Council of
The City Of Detroit

To Whom It May Concern:

The following is a letter in support for the acknowledgement one of Detroit’s most dedicated Pastors, Rev. Earnest O. King, Sr. by naming the street where his church stands in his honor. I have known Rev. King for more than fifteen years and in that time, I can honestly say that I have been impressed and inspired by the energy and dedication that he brings to his calling. I greatly value his friendship. Upon his anniversary this year, Rev. King will have served as the Pastor of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church of Detroit for 42 years, and in that time, he has become an institution within Detroit’s clergy community.

Pastor King is heavily involved with the Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity, where he has served as the chair of number of committees. My more direct involvement with Rev. King, however, has to do with his work with the Calvary Baptist Association, the district to which we both belong. Pastor King is a past Moderator of the Calvary District and during his term I served as his Special Assistant. During his time as the leader of Calvary Pastor King served well, helping to establish a number of innovative programs. Later, when I served a term as President of the Calvary Congress of Christian Education (the Association’s educational arm), Pastor King provided me invaluable advice and counsel. It was during my time with Calvary that I worked with Rev. King to establish the Emogene King Memorial Scholarship Fund, honoring Pastor King’s late wife, which provided financial support for fifteen students from various Calvary churches. Finally, during my tenure as Calvary’s President, I appointed Rev. King as the President of the Voices of Calvary, the association’s choir. A position that he still holds.

Because of the things that I have mentioned and for other things too numerous to name, I feel that Reverend Earnest O. King, Sr. is well deserving of having his name affixed to the street where he has served so faithfully. Many streets in Detroit bear the names of people whose contributions to our city have long since been forgotten. I think that it is only fitting that the city would honor one of its most dedicated Pastors while he and his congregation can enjoy and share in the honor.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to call me at 313 683-2750.

Yours truly,

Rev. Robert B. Jones, Sr.
Pastor, Sweet Kingdom Missionary Baptist Church
Past President, Calvary Congress of Christian Education