

31ST BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES CITY OF STAMFORD

President
JEFF CURTIS

Clerk of the Board
MEGAN COTTRELL

Majority Leader
NINA SHERWOOD

Minority Leader
MARY L. FEDELI

RESOLUTION NO. 4142 RECOGNIZING THE SECTION OF FAIRFIELD AVENUE BETWEEN WEST MAIN STREET AND RICHMOND HILL AVENUE WITH THE HONORARY NAME OF "DR. JOYCE YERWOOD WAY"

WHEREAS, Section 21-4 of the Code of Ordinances permits the placing of commemorative signs on city streets or segments thereof in recognition of individuals who have contributed significant accomplishments to the City of Stamford or a community within the city and provides that where possible, the location of any such commemorative signs shall be reasonably related to the individual and the accomplishments being recognized; and

WHEREAS, Section 21-5 of the Code of Ordinances provides that such a commemorative sign may only be placed on a city street or segment if a petition has been submitted to the City in favor of the proposed naming, containing the signatures of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the record owners of the properties on such city street or segment thereof; if there has been a specific finding by the Board of Representatives that such person has contributed significant accomplishments to the City of Stamford or a community within the city and if that person shall have been a resident of the City of Stamford for at least ten (10) years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Joyce Yerwood was born on January 5, 1909, in Victoria, Texas, attended the Samuel Huston College and graduated from Meharry Medical College in 1933; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Joyce Yerwood married Dr. Joseph Carwin, a fellow physician, and moved to Stamford in 1936; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Joyce Yerwood moved her medical practice to Stamford in 1943, and delivered over 2,000 babies and devoted herself to providing quality medical care for low-income women, children, and families until she retired in 1981; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Joyce Yerwood was incredibly civic-minded and tremendously passionate for the people of her community and much sought-after Board member for various organizations in the Stamford area, serving as Chair of the Board of Trustees of Union Baptist Church, an active member of the Eastern Star, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the Girl Friends, Inc., the Soroptimists Club, the Stamford Medical Society, the National Medical Association, the Stamford Hospital Corporation, and the World Medical Association; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Joyce Yerwood was active in the effort to revitalize the West Side and regularly worked to improve the neighborhood, including founding the Stamford Negro Community Center in 1943 which moved to and became the Yerwood Center in 1975; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Yerwood received many community service awards and honors in her lifetime including the Stamford Mayor's Award, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Heritage Award, and the Hannah G. Solomon Award; and


WHEREAS, the City of Stamford is the only property owner on the section of Fairfield Avenue between West Main Street and Richmond Hill Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Representatives wants to honor Dr. Joyce Yerwood by giving the section of Fairfield Avenue between West Main Street and Richmond Hill Avenue the honorary name of "Dr. Joyce Yerwood Way" in recognition of Dr. Yerwood's contributions to the West Side community and the City of Stamford.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the 31st Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford that the section of Fairfield Avenue between West Main Street and Richmond Hill Avenue shall be given the honorary name of "Dr. Joyce Yerwood Way."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this commemorative name shall expire twenty-five (25) years after the date of this resolution unless renewed for an additional twenty-five (25) year period by three-quarters (¾) of the members of the Board of Representatives present and voting.

This resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda at the Regular Meeting of the 31st Board of Representatives held on June 6, 2022.



Jeff Curtis, President
31st Board of Representatives



Megan Cottrell, Clerk
31st Board of Representatives

cc: Mayor Caroline Simmons
Douglas Dalena, Esq., Law Department
Lyda Ruijter, Town & City Clerk
Elda Sinani, Director of OPM
Sandra L. Dennies, Director of Administration
Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations
Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare
Loren Nadres, Director of Economic Development
Bridget Fox, Chief of Staff
Frank Petise, Transportation Bureau Chief
Ralph Blessing, Land Use Bureau Chief