

ORIGINAL  
STAMPED IN RED

RESOLUTION NO.: R-2024-054

*Approving the Honorary Naming of the community center located at 1113 Recreation Drive "Virginia Bedford Community Center"*

WHEREAS, Virginia Bedford was born in Columbia to William Beford and Jamie Lee Bedford. She grew up in northwest Alabama but spent summers in Columbia. She later returned to Columbia as an adult and became a pioneer and leader in neighborhood development; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Beford settled in Earlewood in 1977 and was one of the leaders to establish the Earlewood Citizens Community Organization (ECCO). She was a leader in transforming Earlewood into the thriving community it is today. She focused on safety and policing and helped to establish a neighborhood watch program; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Beford helped in transforming Earlewood Park. She assisted in ensuring a new community center was build, which lead to the City establishing a new Parks and Recreation administration building at Earlewood Park. She was responsible for the renovation of the park's amphitheater, a grant to create a nature trail, dog park and children's playground. She was a former director and treasurer of the Columbia Parks and Recreation Foundation; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2024, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia hereby approve the honorary naming of the community center located at 1113 Recreation Drive "Virginia Bedford Community Center".

Requested by:

Councilwoman Tina Herbert

Approved by:

Cheressa Wilson  
City Manager

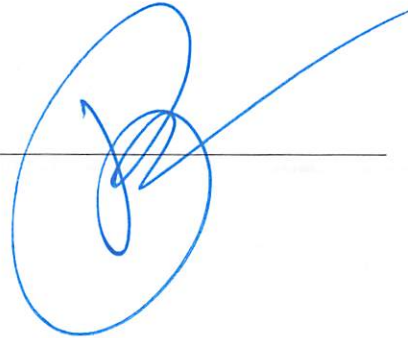
Approved as to form:

[Signature]  
City Attorney

Introduced: 7/16/2024

Final Reading: 7/16/2024

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Mayor



ATTEST:

[Signature]  
City Clerk

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APPLICATION



HONORARY STREET/FACILITY, ROOM AND SITE NAMING

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Please see submission checklist for materials necessary for application.  
**SUBMISSION MATERIALS MUST ACCOMPANY APPLICATION.**  
Application form and materials are **DUE AT 4:00 p.m.** thirty (30) days prior to ceremony.

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- Is the designation:
- Honorary Street Naming  
(topper will be posted above standard city street signs)
  - Facility Naming (a marker of plaque will be posted inside and outside of facility)
  - Room Naming (a marker or plaque will be posted outside of room).
  - Site Naming

- Checklist:
- Application
  - Council Members (District and one At-Large Sponsor)
  - 3 Letter(s) of Support
    - 1) One letter expressing Community support
    - 2) One letter expressing Neighborhood/Neighborhood Association or Merchant Association support
    - 3) One letter expressing Councilmembers' support
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<u>Andy DAVIS</u> Applicant Signature*	<u>andy.davis@columbiasc.gov</u> E-mail Address
<u>Andy DAVIS</u> Print Name	<u>1111 Recreation Drive</u> Mailing Address
<u>803-545-3085</u> Phone Number	<u>6/28/24</u> Date

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Check and initial acknowledging application requirements.

- AD Signage wording cannot exceed twenty-six characters.
- AD Any changes to initial request must be made in writing no more than 30 days prior to ceremony.
- AD Signage wording and resolution must be finalized 30 days prior to ceremony.
- AD Applicant must provide letter(s) of support as outlined in the above checklist.

APPLICATION



HONORARY STREET/FACILITY, ROOM AND SITE NAMING

1. Name of individual or organization to be honored:

Virginia Bedford

2. Name of street, facility, room or site of proposed designation: *Please list the intersecting streets and block numbers for honorary street naming's. No more than two signs are permitted per honorary street naming designation.*

1113 Recreation Dr. Name: Virginia Bedford  
Community Center

3. Attach sheet describing the significant contribution(s) this individual or organization has made in the community (no more than one page):

4. Location, date and time of unveiling ceremony if approved:

November 2024

5. District Council Member Sponsor:

Name: Aditi Bussells At-Large Council Member Sponsor:

Name: Tina Herbert

**FOR STAFF USE:**

Council Member Sponsor(s):  Approved  Rejected

Public Works:  Approved  Rejected

Parks and Recreation:  Approved  Rejected

Support Services:  Approved  Rejected

Public Safety:  Approved  Rejected

City Council Approval Date: July 16, 2024

**Davis, Randy**

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**From:** Herbert, Tina N  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2024 1:23 PM  
**To:** bussells.aditi@columbiasc.gov; Davis, Randy  
**Cc:** Herbert, Tina N; Belton, Chanique J  
**Subject:** Bedford and Moss

Hey Aditi,

Would you join me in supporting the naming of the Earlewood Community center after Virginia Bedford? Please reply all. J

The city will be placing a placard of sorts on the exterior of the building.

We will be doing the same thing for the Leroy Moss ... Center. However, it has already been named. This time we will be adding the exterior placard.

Thanks !!

Tina Herbert  
City of Columbia City Council

# HISTORIC EARLEWOOD

EST. 1910 • COLUMBIA, SC

June 28, 2024

Randy Davis  
Director, Parks Department  
City of Columbia

Dear Mr. Davis and City Councilmembers:

The Earlewood Concerned Citizens Organization (ECCO) gives our complete support to the renaming of the Earlewood Park Community Center in honor of our dear friend Virginia Bedford. Virginia taught many of what it means to be engaged in civic activities and how to use our time and efforts for the betterment of our community, Earlewood, and the city as a whole. She was a fierce advocate for parks in the City of Columbia, and it was her vision, inspiration, and persistence that was instrumental in the renovations that made Earlewood Park the gem that it is today. In fact, much of the design elements that make the community center so wonderful today, came directly from Virginia.

Even though it has been a little over a year since Virginia's passing, we can still feel her urging us on to do more and to do it better! It would be an appropriate tribute for the community building to be named in her honor, and we give our enthusiastic support.

Sincerely,

  
Kathleen McDaniel