

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION NO.: R-2026-008

*Approving the Honorary Naming of Katy Street in Golden Acres community as
"Curtis Elkins Street"*

WHEREAS, Curtis A. Elkins was born, raised, and resided in the Golden Acres community for 64 years. He was a daily testament to the values of service, compassion, and community; and

WHEREAS, Curtis A. Elkins was dedicated to ensuring the community remained in a safe and orderly manner as he cared for the elderly neighbors and their yards, mentored young men in the neighborhood, and encouraged others to become a better version of themselves; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED this 6th day of January, 2026, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia hereby approve the honorary naming of Katy Street in Golden Acres community as "Curtis Elkins Street."


Requested by:

Councilman Edward H. McDowell, Jr.

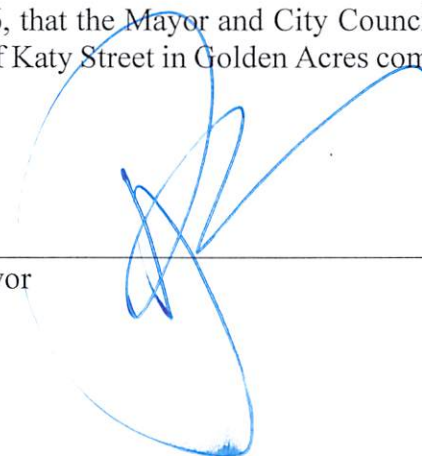
Approved by:


City Manager


Approved as to form:


City Attorney

Introduced: 01/06/2026
Final Reading: 01/06/2026


Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk



HONORARY STREET/FACILITY, ROOM AND SITE NAMING APPLICATION

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.

Is the designation: **Honorary Street Naming** (*Offer will be posted above standard City of Columbia street signs.*)
 Facility Naming (*A marker or 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**

Dr. Monica Elkins

Applicant Signature*

Dr. Monica Elkins

Print Name

803-445-7344

Phone Number

Puttingstudentsfirst2012@gmail.com

E-mail Address

PO Box 290522, Columbia, SC 29329

Mailing Address

8/12/2025

Date

Check and initial acknowledging application requirements.

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



HONORARY STREET/FACILITY, ROOM AND SITE NAMING APPLICATION

1. Name of individual or organization to be honored:

Curtis A. Elkins (deceased)

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

Katy Street, Columbia, SC 29203

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:

September 6th, 2025 @ 12:00 p.m. (Corner of Katy and Isabell St)

5. District Council Member Sponsor:

Name: Rev. McDowell

At-Large Council Member Sponsor:

Name: Tyler Bailey

FOR STAFF USE:

Public Works: Approved Rejected

Parks and Recreation: Approved Rejected

Support Services: Approved Rejected

Public Safety: Approved Rejected

City Council Approval Date: _____

Leon Howard
District No. 76 - Richland County
2425 Barhamville Road
Columbia, SC 29204

Committee:
Ways and Means



530 Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

Tel. (803) 734-3049

House of Representatives

State of South Carolina

July 16, 2025

The Honorable Councilman Edward H. McDowell, Jr.
City of Columbia
P.O. Box 147
Columbia, South Carolina 29217

Dear Councilman McDowell.

Please accept this letter in support of renaming Katy Street in honor and memory of the late Mr. Curtis Elkins, a longtime resident and pillar of the Golden Acres community, affectionately known as "Mr. Golden Acres."

Mr. Elkins was a true champion for his community, known and loved by both young and old. He was always ready to mow a neighbor's lawn, carry groceries, or offer a word of encouragement to anyone he encountered. His unwavering commitment to helping others and his generous heart made him a cornerstone of the Golden Acres neighborhood.

Mr. Elkins would gladly give his last to someone in need without hesitation, embodying the very essence of selflessness and service. He had a passion for landscaping and construction, and his meticulous work reflected the same pride, dedication, and care he brought to his relationships and community involvement.

Renaming Katy Street in his honor would be a fitting tribute to a man who gave so much to those around him. It would serve as a lasting reminder of his legacy, his love for the neighborhood, and the impact of his life's work.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Leon Howard
South Carolina House District Representative, District 76

/jg

July 10, 2025

Councilman Reverend Ed McDowell
1314 Heidt St
Columbia, SC 29204

Dear Councilman Rev. McDowell,

I am writing to you on behalf of my beloved brother, the late **Curtis Elkins**, a lifelong resident and pillar of the Golden Acres community, where he was affectionately known by all as "**Mr. Golden Acres.**"

Curtis was not just a man who lived in the neighborhood; he was a man who lived for the neighborhood. Born, raised, and residing in the Golden Acres area for 64 meaningful years; his life was a daily testament to the values of service, compassion, and community. His legacy is imprinted in the hearts of every neighbor he uplifted, every child he mentored, and every elder he served.

Curtis used his own life experiences to become a beacon of wisdom and a mentor for countless youths in the area. He supported single-parent households by ensuring children had gifts during the holidays and consistently stepped in as an unofficial but ever-present neighborhood watchman, keeping our streets safe and peaceful through his daily presence and care. For our seniors, he was their helping hand, mowing lawns, raking leaves, and doing heavy tasks they could no longer manage alone.

He poured not just time, but also his personal resources and immeasurable heart into Golden Acres. His actions, though quiet, consistent, and compassionate, spoke volumes. He never asked for recognition. He simply showed up, day after day, for the people and the place he loved.

It is in this spirit of remembrance and community gratitude that we humbly request that **Katy Street be renamed in honor of Curtis Elkins**. Doing so would not only be a meaningful tribute to his memory but also serve as a lasting symbol of service, humility, love, and values that Curtis lived and left behind for all of us.

We thank you in advance for considering this request and for continuing to support and uplift the residents of this city, just as Curtis did every day of his life.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Dr. Monica Elkins

Dr. Monica Elkins
On behalf of the Elkins' and Golden Acres Family

803-200-2121

July 9, 2025

Councilman Rev. Ed McDowell
1314 Heidt St
Columbia, SC 29204

Dear Councilman McDowell,

It's with great honor and gratitude to write a recommendation letter on behalf of the late Curtis Elkins to be considered to have **Katy Street** named in his honor.

I've had the pleasure of developing a positive and brotherly friendship with Curtis for more than three decades; watching him behave in such a childish manner to witnessing him give his life to Christ. He was such an affectionate and outspoken man who cared deeply about his family and community.

Curtis lived in Golden Acres on **Katy Street** his entire life (64 years) and was dedicated to ensuring that the community remained in a safe and orderly manner, he cared for the elderly neighbors ensuring that their yards were landscaped perfectly and many times it was done without a cost associated with it; as well as being a mentor to the younger men in the neighborhood who were going down the wrong past. He felt comfortable sharing his past with people to encourage and motivate them to become a better version of themselves.

Without a doubt, I believe that changing **Katy Street** to **Curtis Street** will be a daily reminder for the community to see that God gives second chances to everyone and a reminder of scripture Psalm 34:17- The righteous cry out and the Lord hears them: he delivers them from all their troubles.

Respectfully,



Bishop Dr. Willie V. Sutton, Jr.

Bishop Dr. Willie V. Sutton, Jr.

July 9, 2025

Councilman Rev. Ed McDowell
1314 Heidt Street
Columbia, SC 29204

Dear Councilman McDowell,

I would highly recommend that your office consider changing the name of Katy Street in Golden Acres community to **"Curtis" Elkins St.**

Curtis was raised in the community and he was well respected by the entire community. His house was the neighborhood house; where he fed everyone, allowed friends to stay over if needed and he took care of the landscaping for almost all of the houses in the neighborhood. The elderly neighbors depended on Curtis and he made sure that they felt safe. He was very protective of his blood and community family.

It was quite obvious, that Curtis was very caring, outspoken and loved his neighbors and neighborhood by the way he shaped the spirit and character of the community. He felt a strong desire to minister to the younger men and women to get their life right with God while listening to Christian music and hosting cookouts. Curtis held the neighborhood down for 64 years.

Nevertheless, changing Katy street to Curtis' street will serve as a reminder that your past does not dictate your future and that one person can enhance, motivate and inspire future generations.

Therefore, I give my support without hesitation to request that Katy street is changed to Curtis Street.

Respectfully,

Ms. Sandra Ricks

Ms. Sandra Ricks
Golden Acres Community President
1-610-355-5019