

RESOLUTION NO.: R-2019-110

*Approving the Honorary Naming of the 2300 block of Pendleton Street between Oak Street and Heidt Street "Donella B. Wilson Way"*

ORIGINAL  
STAMPED IN RED

WHEREAS, Donella B. Wilson was born and raised in Fort Motte, South Carolina where she learned to read and write by oil lamp light and a Sears catalog. At an early age she desired to teach others how to read and write, which lead her to attend Allen University's Preparatory High School, the Teachers' Training Department and obtain her B.S. in Education;

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wilson accepted a teaching assignment in a multi-grade one-room schoolhouse in Fort Motte and taught for over four decades in rural counties throughout South Carolina where she shaped the lives of many generations of students until her retirement from the Newberry County School System in 1971; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wilson and Reverend John R. Wilson, Sr. were married for over 66 years, 62 of which they spent at 1214 Heidt Street in Columbia, raising their four children; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wilson was a true Christian woman and a lifelong member of Union Baptist Church, having served as Mother of the Church. She also served in many Midlands church organizations in support of her husband's service as pastor and interim pastor; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wilson was active in the Waverly Community always striving to make it a better place for its residents by her involvement in various organizations, as well as local, state and national elections; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wilson obtained her membership with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People while in elementary school; was a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., the Household of Ruth, Women's Home Aid Society, the South Carolina and the Richland County Retired Teacher's Associations, Allen University Alumni Association, Interdenominational Alliance of Ministers Wives and Widows, Inc., the Columbia Counsel of Garden Clubs and the Carver Garden Club. She was also the National Superintendent Emeritus of the United Order of Tends, Southern District #4, a 2011 honoree of the AT&T African-American History Calendar and a 2017 Order of the Palmetto recipient; NOW THEREFORE,


BE IT RESOLVED this 17th day of December, 2019, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia hereby approve the honorary naming of the 2300 block of Pendleton Street between Oak Street and Heidt Street "Donella B. Wilson Way. The design and color of the honorary toppers shall be subject to the approval of the Director of Public Works.

Requested by:


Councilmember McDowell

  
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Mayor

Approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

Approved as to form:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Introduced: 12/17/2019  
Final Reading: 12/17/2019