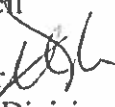


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**CITY COUNCIL**

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**TO:** Detroit City Council  
**FROM:** David D. Whitaker   
Legislative Policy Division Staff  
**DATE:** November 6, 2015  
**RE:** **Secondary Street Naming Resolution – Stevie Wonder**

The Legislative Policy Division was requested to provide resolution assigning a secondary street names in Stevie Wonder. The resolution is attached for your consideration.

**BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT JONES:**

**RESOLUTION FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF A  
SECONDARY STREET NAME OF MILWAUKEE AVENUE  
AT WOODWARD AVENUE TO STEVIE WONDER AVENUE**

**WHEREAS,** Stevland Hardaway Morris (born May 13, 1950, as Stevland Hardaway Judkins), better known by his stage name Stevie Wonder, is an American musician, singer, songwriter, record producer, and multi-instrumentalist. He is widely recognized as one of the most richly talented, creative and beloved musical performers of the 20th century whose blindness from almost birth did not deter his ascent to stardom; and

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Wonder has recorded more than 30 U.S. top ten hits and won 25 Grammy Awards (the most ever won by a solo artist) as well as a Lifetime Achievement Award. He has also won an Academy Award for Best Song, and been inducted into both the Rock and Roll and Songwriters halls of fame. He has also been awarded the Polar Music Prize, the President Medal of Freedom, Library of Congress Gershwin Prize and the United Nations Messenger of Peace; and

**WHEREAS,** Stevie Wonder started out his career in Detroit as Motown's child prodigy and over his 50+ year career, he has been a true musical pioneer whose work has embraced influences as diverse as reggae and jazz. He has created music that was trailblazing in both its style and message; and

**WHEREAS,** In the 1970s he not only introduced a cutting edge new sound by blending synthesizer technology creating his own funky, visionary masterpieces but used his platform to discuss the taboo issues confronting the community such as poverty, war, drugs and politics; and

**WHEREAS,** Over the length of his illustrious career, Mr. Wonder used his tremendous celebrity to enrich his listeners with his pure musical artistry, but more importantly, to give widespread voice to unpopular but important issues. His extensive humanitarian work has concentrated on AIDS awareness, antiapartheid efforts, crusades against drunk driving and drug abuse, and fund-raising for blind and mentally disabled children and the homeless. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED,** That Milwaukee Avenue at Woodward Avenue be assigned the secondary street name "Stevie Wonder Avenue" in celebration of his noteworthy achievements; **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER**

**RESOLVED,** That the projected cost of designing, producing, erecting, replacing, and removing the two signs and markers designating the assignment of secondary name shall be paid, in advance, to the street fund by the petitioner requesting the secondary name; **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY**

**RESOLVED,** A certified copy of the resolution shall be transmitted by the city clerk to the fire department, historical department, police department, department of public works and its city engineering and traffic engineering divisions, recreation department, department of transportation, and the United States Postal Service.

November 5, 2015