

March 24, 2010

To the Public Works Committee

Subject: Common Council Resolution File Number 091537
Honorary Street Name Request
West Center Street and West Fond Du Lac Avenue
to Mattiebelle Woods.

Dear Honorable Members:

This letter is in reply to a notice dated February 7, 2010 regarding a request for an honorary street name on West Center Street.

Chapter 113-3 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances provides the guidelines to consider when reviewing honorary street name requests. The guidelines provided in the code have been reviewed and the following comments are offered.

Mattiebelle Woods passed away in 2005 at the age of 102 years. There is an exhibit on the life of Mattiebelle Woods at the Wisconsin Black Historical Society Museum located at 2620 West Center Street. The biography submitted on her behalf explains her community work within the Milwaukee area. Her volunteer work included involvement with the March of Dimes, The United Way, NAACP, and the Milwaukee Urban League. Mattiebelle Woods was the oldest living working journalist in America. She believed in helping people, especially the young with a positive attitude and strong spirit.

The request to honor Mattiebelle Woods with an honorary street name of "Mattiebelle Woods" includes 17 letters and spaces. There is not a limit to 13 letters/spaces as with an official street name change request, however, the letters will be a smaller size to fit the standard honorary street sign space.

One blue honorary street sign is required and will be mounted on the pedestrian triangle located at the intersection of West Center Street at West Fond Du Lac Ave. The sign will be mounted below the West Center Street sign in the east-west orientation at the location. The existing Official Street sign at the location will remain. The petitioner may choose to furnish the honorary street sign provided that it is fabricated to established City guidelines. The City

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can fabricate the sign at \$50 each. In either case, the City will install the honorary street sign at a cost of \$50 per sign. The petitioner is to deposit \$50 to the City if they furnish the sign or \$100 if the City fabricates and installs the sign. If the sign needs to be replaced in the future, the City is to be notified of the missing or damaged sign and the petitioner is to cover the cost to fabricate and mount the sign as described above with the initial installation. The City's cost to fabricate and install future signs is subject to change.

Provided that the honorary street name request meets the established design criteria and that the Department of Public Works does not incur any costs as a result of this action, we can support this resolution.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey Polenske, P.E.
City Engineer

Jeffrey J. Mantes
Commissioner of Public Works

MGC:slm

Attachment