

Department of Public Works Infrastructure Services Division Jerrel Kruschke, PE Commissioner of Public Works

Kevin J. Muhs, PE, AICP City Engineer

Timothy J. Thur, PE Infrastructure Administration Manager

September 3, 2025

To the Public Works Committee

Subject: Request to Change Street Name – North 14th Street from West Capitol Drive to West

Cornell Street to North Nevada Davis Way

Dear Honorable Members:

In April 2025, the city received an application from Alex Erdmann of the Nevada Davis Street Re-Naming Coalition to officially change the street name of North 14th Street to North Nevada Davis Way. There are 140 affected units with 191 owners/residents located along this street and the proposed street name change will heighten awareness of the community service provided by Mrs. Nevada Davis.

Mrs. Nevada Davis was born in Columbia, Mississippi but later relocated to Milwaukee, Wisconsin; she began her community work as a founding and charter member of the Community Baptist Church of Greater Milwaukee. Mrs. Nevada Davis lived on this street for more than forty-six years (4131 North 14th Street). Mrs. Davis was a Woman's Rights Activist, AFL-CIO Associate Director and proud employee for United Way of Greater Milwaukee for more than thirty-three years. She was responsible for finding the building where Community Baptist Church of Greater Milwaukee is presently located. She later helped to establish the Community Credit Union where financial literacy efforts and banking opportunities were extended to the Milwaukee Community at large. She found great joy in helping people to ascend to their fullest potential by providing them with resources and education.

Chapter 113-3 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances defines the policy and procedure the City is to follow when a request is submitted to consider changing a street name. One of the requirements is that the City is to conduct a postcard survey of all the property owners and residents along the street proposed to be renamed. In this case, 191 affected property owners and residents were surveyed and 66 postcards were returned, 54 were in favor of the street name change and 12 against. Per the street name changing ordinance, at least 50 percent of those surveyed must be in favor of renaming the street in order for the proposal to be considered by the City. For this street renaming proposal, 28 percent support the street renaming.

Based on the postcard survey and the number of affected residents supporting the change, it is not recommended to officially change the street name.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Muhs, P.E., AICP

City Engineer

Jerrel Kruschke, P.E.

Commissioner of Public Works

c: Alder. Andrea Pratt, Alex Erdmann

