



Department of Public Works
Infrastructure Services Division

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Commissioner of Public Works

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City Engineer

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August 25, 2021

To The Public Works Committee

Subject: Honorary Street Name Request – Ralph H. Metcalfe, Sr.
North 34th Street from West North Avenue to West Center Street

Dear Honorable Members:

This letter is in reply to an application dated July 20, 2021 regarding a request for an honorary street name of Ralph H. Metcalfe on North 34th Street from West North Avenue to 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:

Ralph H. Metcalfe, Sr. was a track and field sprinter and politician. He won two American Athletic Union (AAU) events three years in a row at the AAU Championships that were held at Marquette University Stadium. Metcalfe participated in the 1932 and 1936 Olympics, where he won a bronze, two silver, and a gold medal.


After earning his bachelor's degree at Marquette University in 1936, Metcalfe completed a master's degree at the University of Southern California in 1939. Metcalfe later became the director of Chicago's Department of Civil Rights. Metcalfe spent more than two decades in politics and was elected to the Chicago City Council in 1955. In 1970, he successfully ran for Congress, where he helped organize the Congressional Black Caucus. In 1981, Marquette University established The Metcalfe Chair, which brings to campus scholars of historically underrepresented cultural groups.

The request to honor Ralph H. Metcalfe, Sr. posthumously with an honorary street name of "Ralph H. Metcalfe" includes 17 letters and spaces. The letter size of the honorary street name will be sized to fit the standard honorary street sign space.

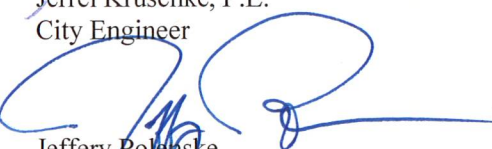
Four (4) blue honorary street signs will be needed. Please refer to the attached map showing where the honorary street name signs will be located. The petitioner may choose to furnish the honorary street signs but they must be fabricated to established City standards. The City can fabricate the signs at \$50 each. In either case, the City will install the honorary street signs at a cost of \$50 per sign. The petitioner is to deposit \$200 to the City if they furnish the four signs or \$400 if the City fabricates and installs the signs. If a 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. The City's cost to fabricate and install future signs is subject to change.

North 34th Street will remain the official street name so addresses will not change.

Sincerely,



Jerrel Kruschke, P.E.
City Engineer



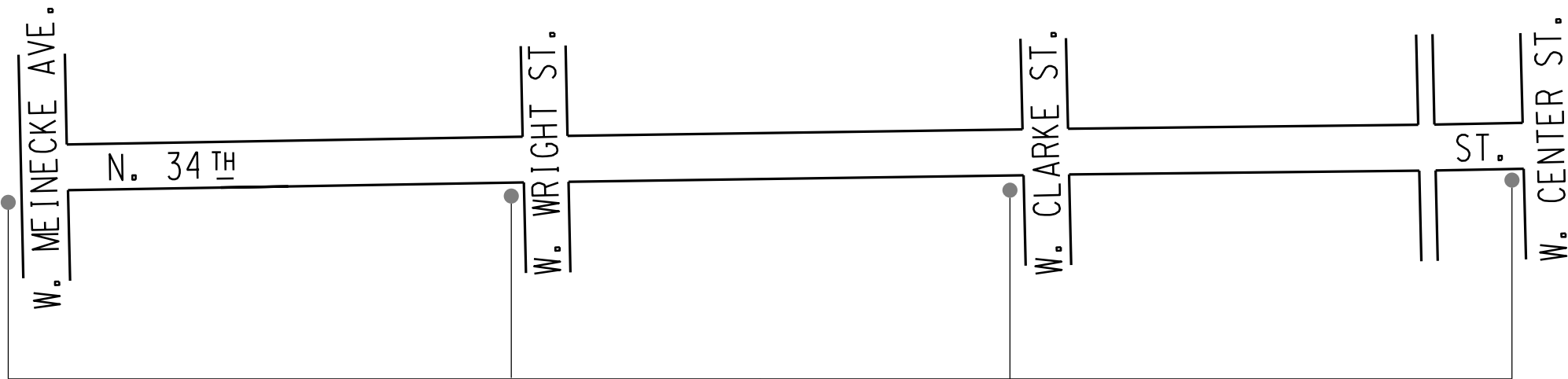
Jeffery Polenske
Commissioner of Public Works

JT YM/clm

Enclosures



N. 34TH ST. FROM W. NORTH AVE. TO W. CENTER ST.



LOCATION OF STREET SIGNS WHERE HONORARY STREET NAME
OF RALPH H. METCALFE WILL BE MOUNTED

Honorary Street Name Request
N 34th St. between
W North Ave. and W Center St.
to Ralph H. Metcalfe

W Center St

HONORARY
Ralph H. Metcalfe