

RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A resolution approving an Honorary Designation Application submitted by W. Greg Herring requesting to rename the Boxwood Recreation Center in honor and memory of the late Councilor Jerry “Pops” Barnes.

WHEREAS, Jerry “Pops” Barnes proudly served his country in the United States Army, retiring in 1996 as a Master Sergeant, and demonstrated a lifelong commitment to education by earning two bachelor’s degrees, including a degree in nursing at the age of 57; and,

WHEREAS, Councilor Barnes was elected in 2004 to represent District One on the Columbus City Council, where he became known as a tireless advocate for his constituents and a compassionate, accessible, and dedicated public servant; and,

WHEREAS, after the Boxwood Recreation Center had been closed for approximately ten years, Councilor Barnes spearheaded efforts that resulted in its reopening in 2013 and supported the establishment and growth of programs that continue to serve children, families, and residents of the surrounding community; and,

WHEREAS, throughout his service, Councilor Barnes worked to connect citizens with City leadership, community organizations, programs, and resources and received numerous honors recognizing his leadership and contributions to Columbus and the State of Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, Councilor Jerry “Pops” Barnes passed away on April 14, 2024, leaving a lasting legacy of service, compassion, leadership, and commitment to District One and the entire Columbus community; and,

WHEREAS, renaming the Boxwood Recreation Center in his honor will provide a lasting tribute to his service and his commitment to strengthening the community he faithfully represented.

WHEREAS, in accordance with the City Facility and Honorary Street Naming Policy-Section 3: Criteria for Naming City Facilities, “Unless otherwise approved by city council, when a building, facility or public outdoor space undergoes a major renovation or ceases to exist, the name will be honored as a part of the City’s history but will not necessarily be retained.”

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES:

That the facility currently known as the Boxwood Recreation Center is hereby renamed the “Jerry “Pops” Barnes Recreation Center” in honor and memory of the late Councilor Jerry “Pops” Barnes and in recognition of his distinguished service to District One and the Columbus community.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the 13th day of October 2026 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Barnes	voting _____
Councilor Chambers	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Cook	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

Lindsey G. McLemore
Clerk of Council

B. H. “Skip” Henderson, III
Mayor