

Honorary Street Designation Application

Columbus, Georgia

Name of Honoree: Ronnie Duckworth, Sr.

Circle One: Living Deceased

Requestor: Tony Thornton

Contact Information: (706) 7108-0649 or tony.thornton@yahoo.com

Requested Sign Location: 2nd Ave and 35th Street 35th and River Road

Existing Street Name: 35th Street

Before submitting this application, please read the code sections list below for information regarding the honorary designation guidelines and process as set in the Columbus Code of Ordinances.

COLUMBUS CODE OF ORDINANCES: Chapter 2 – Administration

ARTICLE VII. - BOARD OF HONOR FOR DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS

Sec. 2-81. - Established; purpose.

(a) A board of honor for distinguished citizens is hereby established for the purpose of honoring citizens through a continuing memorial program in Columbus, Georgia, under which public activities, buildings, bridges and other facilities may be named for citizens who distinguish themselves through service to the city.

(b) With respect to the naming of city streets, all proposals to rename an existing street or any segment thereof in honor or memory of any person living or dead, shall be referred to the board of honor for notice, inquiry and deliberation consistent with the manner in which it conducts its other duties pursuant to this article. After inquiry and deliberation, the board shall make a recommendation to the Columbus Council for honorary designation by resolution, official street naming by ordinance, or denial of the request. Provided, however, the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the naming of new streets pursuant to § 7.8.5 of the Unified Development Ordinance.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code, city-owned facilities named in memory of a person pursuant to subsection (a) may be reviewed by the Board of Honor or the Columbus Council after the lapse of a 15-year period from the date of facility naming by the Columbus Council. (Ord. No. 75-92, § 1, 9-30-75; Ord. No. 11-57, § 1, 11-8-11; Ord. No. 12-19, § 1, 4-24-12)

Sec. 2-84. - Rules of proceedings; compensation of members.

The board may make their own rules of proceedings for their organization procedures consistent with the ordinances of Columbus and the State of Georgia. The members of the board shall serve without compensation. (Ord. No. 75-92, § 4, 9-30-75)

Sec. 2-85. - Memorialization criteria.

Memorialization criteria shall be as follows:

- (a) The board shall develop procedures for considering nominations of deceased citizens that have distinguished themselves by outstanding service to the community;

- (b) No memorialization motions will be made without the consent of the immediate family of the honoree and without public notice of the motion being considered by the board of honor. (Ord. No. 75-92, § 5, 9-30-75)

Sec. 2-86. - Consideration, etc., of nominations for memorial designation of public property and activities.

From time to time, this board shall consider, inquire, deliberate and decide upon all nominations for memorial designation of public property and activities, and will make their recommendation to the council within 30 days after their actions. (Ord. No. 75-92, § 6, 9-30-75)

COLUMBUS CODE OF ORDINANCES: Chapter 7 – Project Design Standards

Section 7.8.5. - Street Names.

A. Approval of Street Names.

1. In no case shall the name for a proposed public or private street duplicate existing street names in Columbus, irrespective of the use of a suffix such as: street, avenue, boulevard, road, pike, drive, way, place, court or other derivatives.
2. All street names must be reviewed and approved through the Engineering Department prior to address assignments in order to prevent duplication or confusion with existing streets.
3. Proposed streets obviously in alignment with other existing and named streets shall bear the names of the existing streets.

COLUMBUS CODE OF ORDINANCES: Chapter 18 – Streets and Sidewalks

Sec. 18-54. - [Honorary designating of streets or segments of streets.]

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code, the Columbus Council shall be authorized to designate by resolution existing streets or segments of existing streets in honor or memory of persons, living or deceased, upon recommendation of the Board of Honor for Distinguished Citizens pursuant to Columbus Code subsection 2-81(b). The board shall recommend an honorary designation by resolution, an official street name change by appropriate ordinance, or denial of the request. An honorary designation by resolution shall not change the numbering of buildings or official street addresses of the street or segment so designated. Upon such honorary designation, the traffic engineer shall be authorized to erect appropriate signage in a color distinguishable from standard street signage. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the naming of new streets pursuant to § 7.8.5 of the Unified Development Ordinance. All costs for such signage shall be paid by the applicant for the honorary designation. (Ord. No. 11-57, § 2, 11-8-11)

Please explain and provide the exact wording for requested signage.

Ronnie Duckworth, Sr. BLVD

Intersection(s): From 2nd To 35th Street
From 35th To River Road
From _____ To _____

Note: Please include information for all intersections associated with this request. Each intersection will require the placement of signage. Information will be confirmed with the Columbus Consolidated Government Engineering Department.

Criteria for Honorary Designation

Please complete the following questionnaire, which is used in the evaluation of each request for an honorary designation. Use additional paper if required.

1. Historical and/or cultural influence of the Honoree on the City of Columbus:

Pastor Duckworth participated with the Anti Drug Neighborhood march in the Kendrick Community and 30th Avenue area. Their slogan was "Up With Hope Down With Dope". As a result the neighborhood was cleaned up of drugs. He also served on the Columbus Habitat For Humanity for 10 years, where he helped to approve affordable housing for families. Currently, Pastor Duckworth is the founder and senior pastor of the Philippians Church of God in Christ, located on 35th Street in Columbus, GA. His leadership and commitment to serve the church and community has culturally influenced the surrounding area of 35th Street and abroad.

2. Provide proof of significant lineage or family ties to the City of Columbus:

Pastor Ronnie Duckworth became a primary resident of Columbus, GA in 1973 and served as an Associate Pastor at 30th Ave. Church of God in Christ under the leadership of Thomas Walker. At this point, Pastor Duckworth began to establish a relationship with a host of families and key leaders in the City of Columbus.

3. Establish clear geographical relationship of the street to the Honoree's area of interest:

Superintendent Ronnie Duckworth, Sr. serves as the Senior Pastor at Philippians Church of God in Christ, 301 35th Columbus, Georgia, 31904 since January 2007.

4. Clearly define community or public contribution made by the Honoree:

Instrumental in the development of Kendrick quarters (30th Ave.). He served as Senior Pastor at 30th Ave. Church of God in Christ for over 20 year. Pastor Duckworth founded Philippians Church of God in Christ, 301 35th Street, Columbus, GA 31904 in 2007 and over the past 15 years helped with the transformation, growth, and development in the vicinity of 35th Street. During the pandemic Pastor Duckworth lead an initiative in partnership with the Affordable Connectivity Program to provide no cost Internet Service and LTE Tablet to the community and public.

Signature of Applicant:



Date: 23 June 2022

Send this completed application to the Deputy Clerk of Council at Mclmore.Lindsey@columbusga.org

For questions, please contact the Clerk of Council's office at (706) 225-4013.

