

Augusta Richmond GA

DOCUMENT NAME: street renaming

DOCUMENT TYPE: policy

YEAR: 97

BOX NUMBER: 03

FILE NUMBER: 13082

NUMBER OF PAGES: 4

APPROVED
APR 15 1997
(AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTY COMMISSION)

**AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTY
STREET RENAMING POLICY
ADOPTED APRIL 15, 1997**

This policy shall control the renaming of streets, roads, highways, and alleys for which requests are received after the date of adoption. The policy shall consist of a three stage progressive evaluation against objective criteria.

The first criteria relates to the significance of the existing name. If the name identifies a person, place, or event that has areawide, statewide, or national significance, or if the name strongly relates to the structure or identity of the surrounding community, then a name change shall not be considered for 100 years after the original naming. The date of the original naming shall be researched using real estate records, maps, and other sources and the staff shall make a determination based upon the best available evidence as to that date. If staff determines that the existing name does not have areawide, statewide, or national significance, or that 100 years have passed since the original naming, then the second criteria may be considered.

The second criteria involves a test of continuity. Renaming shall only be considered where an entire street, road, highway, or alley would be affected. Renaming a segment of a street, road, highway, or alley, where a transition from one name to another at some geographic point would result, shall not be considered. If a requested name change would not result in problems of continuity, as determined by the staff, then the third criteria could be considered.

The third criteria would relate to the acceptability of the proposed name. A proposed name shall at a minimum commemorate a person, event, or place of areawide, statewide, or national significance and it shall be acceptable to 66 percent or more of the owners of property adjoining the right-of-way. The acceptability shall be determined on the basis of signatures on a petition prepared for the proposer by the staff from real estate records of the tax assessor's office. The staff shall prepare the petition showing the names of all property owners, and present it to the proposer, who shall attempt to get the necessary 66 percent of all signatures. Upon completion, the signatures on the petition shall be reviewed by the staff and randomly authenticated. If the test set forth under this criteria is passed, then the proposed renaming shall be deemed to be consisted with this policy.

A renaming request that staff has determined to be consisted with this policy shall be forwarded to the administrator with a report on the staff evaluation for action by the Public Safety Committee and subsequently the Augusta Commission. No notice except for the standard notice of items appearing on these agendas shall be given.



AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION
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M E M O R A N D U M

To: Randy Oliver, Augusta-Richmond County's Administrator
From: George A. Patty, Executive Director *GAP*
Date: April 8, 1997
Subject: Augusta-Richmond County Street Renaming Policy

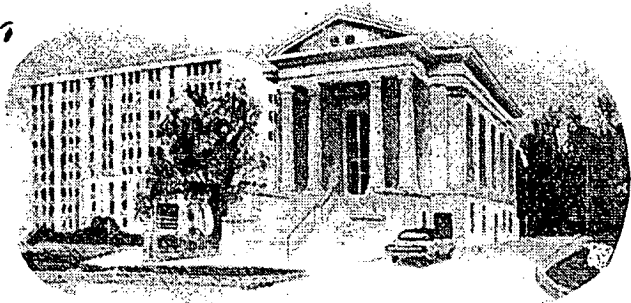
Enclosed you will find a statement of the street renaming policy that was recommended by the public safety committee on April 7. It provides some details about how the evaluation would actually be conducted that are not in my original letter.

Call me if you want to discuss it.

GAP/dgk/

Enclosure
as

cc: Lena Bonner, Clerk of Commission



RECEIVED

MAR 14 1997

AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

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AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTY
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M E M O R A N D U M

To: Randy Oliver, Augusta-Richmond County Administrator
From: George A. Patty, Executive Director GAP
Date: March 14, 1997
Subject: Proposed Policy for Street Renaming

There seems to be increasing interest in the renaming of streets, roads, and highways in Georgia. Several of the State routes have been renamed by Georgia DOT, and we have had several requests to rename local streets. While renaming may be appropriate to commemorate a person, place, or event, it is also certain to cause problems. Some of the problems that are caused are as follows:

- problems related to the loss of name continuity for emergency vehicles, service providers, tourists, and others;
- problems for residents related to accounts, stationary, advertising and others;
- problems related to the meaning of the current name, which might be due to its historical significance, or the "tradition", (i.e. the role in the structure or identity of the community);
- problems related to the proposed name (i.e., would the name be accepted);
- the public cost of renaming-signage, map changes, address changes and record charges.

For these reasons, I believe that a policy should be adopted for considering all future requests to rename streets, roads, and highways within Augusta-Richmond County. I recommend that an evaluation of each request against three criteria serve as the basis for this policy.

The first criteria would relate to the significance of the existing name. If the existing name has local (areawide), state, or national significance, or if the name strongly relates to the structure or identity of the surrounding community, then I believe that a change should not be considered for 100 years after the original naming.

APPROVED FOR DISCUSSION
ON PUBLIC WORKS AGENDA

Charles R. Oliver

3/24/97

Memorandum to Randy Oliver - Administrator
Subj: Proposed Policy for Street Renaming
March 14, 1997
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The second criteria would relate to the proposed name. At a minimum it should commemorate a person, event, or place of areawide, state or national significance and it should be acceptable to a majority of the owners of property adjoining the street. A petition containing the signatures of ~~75~~ percent of such property owners should be required to accompany the request. (51

The third criteria would relate to continuity. If the proposal involves a street or a street segment in a continuous street system (i.e., Berckmans Road/Highland Avenue/Wheeler Road/Ruby Drive) then it should not be considered. If it is a free standing street with defined terminus, or if it is an entire street system, then it could be acceptable, pending an evaluation of the other two criteria.

I recommend that the procedure for this evaluation be as follows:

- name change request is submitted to Administrator, who passes it on to Planning Commission;
- Planning Commission informs proposer of information needed and upon receipt perform evaluation based upon the criteria;
- If the minimum requirements of the criteria are not met, then the petitioner is so informed and no additional action is taken. If the criteria are met, then the Planning Commission holds a public hearing in the area where the change is proposed;
- a report is written summarizing the evaluation and the public hearing and presented to the petitioner and the Administrator;
- request is considered by the Engineering Services Committee, and forwarded to the Commission for final decision.