



City of Racine

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Legislative Report

File Number: Res. 0446-25

Agenda Date: 06/03/2025

File Type:

Resolution

Resolution to Change Carroll Street to Bishop Kirby Lane

WHEREAS, pursuant to City of Racine Resolution 07-0170, requests can be made to the City Council for the consideration of the renaming of a street if certain criteria are met, AND

WHEREAS, a request has been made by several members of the St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church Community to rename Carroll Street to Bishop Kirby Lane, AND

WHEREAS, the historical context of the existing street and street name of Carroll Street is that according to City records it was so named sometime between 1860 and 1875, AND

WHEREAS, Carroll Street is believed to have been named for a local attorney and justice of the peace named M.W. Carroll, AND

WHEREAS, Carroll Street is across the street from St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church located at 1123 Center Street, where its faith community has operated as the only pre-Civil War African American Church in the state of Wisconsin, AND

WHEREAS, there is no other similarly named Bishop Kirby Lane in Racine, AND

WHEREAS, 100% of the property owners on Carroll Street have agreed to the name change, exceeding the 90% of property owners required for consideration of the name change, AND

WHEREAS, there are two property owners with addresses on Carroll Street: St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church owns two parcels and Jon Linderman and Elizabeth Aguilar own one parcel, AND

WHEREAS, there are no residents on any of the parcels with Carroll Street addresses, AND

WHEREAS, the Street name has been proposed in honor of Bishop Lawrence L. Kirby, who has led this nationally significant African American Church for more than four decades, AND

WHEREAS, during Bishop Kirby's tenure in Racine, the St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church has grown to be one of the largest and most progressive churches in Wisconsin, AND

WHEREAS, under Bishop Kirby's leadership, St. Paul's has built a sanctuary, a Senior Citizen Housing Complex, and a Multi-purpose garage. St. Paul's has also operated a Day Care facility, The



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Hope House (a boy's group home), The Miracle Center (an event venue/center), The Mercy House (for food and clothing) and a 44,000 square foot school that houses a Racine Head Start Program, AND

WHEREAS, Bishop Kirby is a lecturer in the National Congress of Christian Education, an auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc, and a member of the Executive Board of the eight-million-member organization. He has served in the State Convention as Vice President-at-large for three terms. His travels have taken him throughout the world to more than forty countries in Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America and throughout the Caribbean. He is often called upon nationally and internationally as a guest preacher, evangelist, lecturer, and teacher, AND

WHEREAS, St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church has agreed to pay the non-refundable remuneration of \$500 to facilitate the name change, AND THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council of Racine approves changing the name of Carroll Street to Bishop Kirby Lane and directs all relevant City Departments to facilitate the name change to its records, to signage, and all other relevant authorities to effectuate this resolution.