

**Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder Harmon and Alder Allen, Motion to Refer to Public Works Committee**

RE: Carrol Street Re-naming

Currently, there is approximately a half block of street named Carrol Street, located in the city of Racine. Several residents have requested that the street be re-named to Bishop L.L. Kirby Drive. Bishop L.L. Kirby is a Racine resident and serves as the Senior Pastor of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church of Racine, WI; his leadership in the City of Racine for the past 40 years has been instrumental and transforming. Bishop Kirby is a pillar throughout the inner city of Racine and is a respected leader, social justice advocate and agent of change.

Some historical context of the existing street is that St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church acquired/purchased majority of the land (Parcel Numbers: 08552 and 08571) on Carrol Street. Also, the proposed name is not similar to any street names in Racine County. The proposed street name, Bishop L.L. Kirby Drive, will have continuity between block address numbers 801-988; and is not part of a redevelopment.

There are 3 properties involved: 821 Carroll Street is owned by St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, 930 Carroll Street-owned by St. Paul ;931 Carroll Street is also owned by St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church; and Wisconsin Plating Works owns the remaining property on the street but does not use the Racine location as its main mailing address. Since, much of the land on Carroll Street is owned by St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, it is safe to say that at least 90% of property owners agree with the name change. While, no residents currently live on Carroll St, there are several Racine residents that agree with the name change.

If the street is re-named in honor of Bishop L.L. Kirby, the name change would recognize someone of importance who has a profound, positive impact on this area and country. Bishop Lawrence Kirby is not only a mentor, leader, and social justice advocate in the City of Racine but across the world. In addition, Bishop Kirby pastor's the oldest registered African American church in the State of Wisconsin for the past 44 years. Bishop Kirby has lectured in the National Congress of Christian Education, an auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc, and a member of the Executive Board. He currently is the Chairman of Foreign Missions Board for the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

