

# Ordinance No. 587-2021

By Council Members Hairston and Polensek

## AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

Designating East 147<sup>th</sup> Street from Aspinwall Avenue to Pepper Avenue with a secondary and honorary designation of “Pastor James Walden, Jr. Way”.

WHEREAS, the citizens of Cleveland want to honor Pastor James Walden Jr., 1939-2020, with a secondary street sign designation of “Pastor James Walden, Jr. Way” in recognition of his legendary service to the Collinwood neighborhood as pastor of Aspinwall Church of God Mountain Assembly, and as a kind, man of God who cared for the community; and

WHEREAS, after being born again in 1956, ordained in 1959, and pioneering two Illinois churches, one of which was in Chicago, Pastor Walden returned to the Collinwood neighborhood where he was raised and became the paster of Aspinwall Church of God Mountain Assembly; and

WHEREAS, with Pastor Walden’s leadership, Aspinwall Church has provided the Aspinwall Christian Academy, Trailblazers for Seniors and the Aspinwall Day Care; Pastor Walden worked with Cleveland resident leaders to fight crime and other inequities facing the people of Collinwood, including participation in marches and helping secure the Job Core for Collinwood; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Walden worked continually for missions, nourishing international ministries for Christ especially in Jamaica, Haiti and India; for almost 40 years Aspinwall Church has packed and shipped thousands of barrels to Africa, Mexico, Jamaica, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic, holding clothing, food, toys, furnishings, equipment and other objects for the Church of God Mountain Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Walden served as District Overseer, Mission Board member, Resolution Committee member, Board of Elders member, Board of Trustees member, Camp Board member and the Benevolent Committee in the national Church of God Mountain Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Pastor James Walden, Jr. was married to the late Myrlene Myers, and was the proud father of five children, fourteen grandchildren, twenty-three great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That East 147<sup>th</sup> Street from Aspinwall Avenue to Pepper Avenue is designated with a secondary and honorary designation of “Pastor James Walden, Jr. Way”.

Section 2. That this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

/jho  
FOR: Councilmember Hairston  
7/14/2021

