

Ordinance No. 685-2022

By Council Members Gray and Conwell

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

Designating Parkview Avenue from 116th Street to 121st Street with a secondary and honorary designation of “Eddie Baccus, Sr. Way”.

FOR PASSAGE

July 13, 2022

WHEREAS, the citizens of Cleveland want to honor Eddie Baccus, Sr. with a secondary street sign designation of “Eddie Baccus, Sr. Way” in recognition of his almost 60 year musical career in Cleveland; and

WHEREAS, as a child born in 1936 in Lawndale, North Carolina, Eddie Baccus, Sr. always had powerful ears and an innate sense for music, playing the piano despite suffering from retinitis pigmentosa, a rare, degenerative eye disease resulting in decreased vision in low light that left him blind by his early 30s; and

WHEREAS, after playing piano and organ with Rahsaan Roland Kirk, the renowned sax great from Columbus, Baccus Sr. came to Cleveland in 1961 to play six nights a week in the 100 Club and stayed for the decades when Cleveland’s black music scene was one of the most vibrant in the country, with East Side clubs along Cedar and Euclid Avenues alive and jumping with music; and

WHEREAS, the area known as “Cleveland’s Harlem hosted everyone from Billie Holiday to Louis Armstrong, Dizzy Gillespie, Count Basie and Harry Belafonte, and in the 1960s it was a must-stop for Motown, soul and R&B performers such as the Supremes, Smokey Robinson, Ray Charles, Nina Simone, the Temptations and Martha and the Vandellas; and

WHEREAS, Eddie Baccus, Sr. was a part of it all, playing at popular clubs like Gleason’s Musical Bar, the forerunner to the legendary Leo’s Casino, and Doan’s Corners; and

WHEREAS, Eddie Baccus, Sr. has been grooving Cleveland crowds for almost 60 years, and his devotion to music and the world around him has inspired musicians, fans and friends; 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 Parkview Avenue from 116th Street to 121st Street is designated with a secondary and honorary designation of “Eddie Baccus, Sr. 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

7-13-2022

FOR: Councilmembers Gray, Conwell

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REPORT
after Second Reading

By Council Members Gray and Conwell

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READ FIRST TIME on
referred to

REPORTS

READ FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME

CITY CLERK

READ SECOND TIME

CITY CLERK

READ THIRD TIME on JULY 13, 2022

PRESIDENT

CITY CLERK

APPROVED

MAYOR

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