

EMERGENCY

City of Cincinnati

JRS

EESW

An Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_

- 2025

**DECLARING** that Windsor Street at Gilbert Avenue in the Walnut Hills neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of "Larry A. Donald Way" in honor of Larry A. Donald, and in recognition of his contributions to the Cincinnati community and the sport of boxing.

WHEREAS, Larry ("the Legend") Donald was born and raised in the Avondale neighborhood of Cincinnati, and grew up playing basketball at the Cincinnati Academy of Physical Education; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Donald took up boxing when he was twenty years old and went from sparing with longtime friend Molecule to becoming a two-time Ohio State Fair Champion; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Donald boxed in the super-heavyweight division and won many accolades and awards including the National Golden Glove Champion in 1989 and 1990; was the 1991 ABF USA National Amateur Champion; won the gold medal at the United States Olympic Festival in 1989 and 1990; and a Silver Medal at the 1990 Goodwill Games; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Donald continued to represent the United States and the City of Cincinnati on the world stage by participating in three Amateur World Championships where he won Silver Medal in 1990 and Bronze Medal in 1991 and won the world Amateur Boxing Championship in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Donald represented the United States as a super heavyweight at the 1992 Summer Olympic Games in Barcelona; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, Mr. Donald defeated Jeremy Williams for the WBC Continental American Championship, which was the last fight broadcasted on ABC's Wide World of Sports on March 12, 1994; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Donald continued his boxing career including winning fights for heavyweight titles for the Latino WBO NABO Championship on June 2, 1996; the WBC Continental Americas on April 8, 1997; and the WBO NABO Championship on February 29, 2000; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Mr. Donald won every round against Evander Holyfield to win the North America Boxing Council heavyweight title at Madison Square Garden in New York City; and

WHEREAS, as an amateur, Mr. Donald had 72 fights with a record of 67 wins and five losses, and as a professional had a record of 42 wins with 24 knockouts, five losses, and three draws; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, Mr. Donald was inducted into the Indiana Boxing Hall of Fame and in 2024 was inducted into the Rochester, New York Boxing Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, after his boxing career, Mr. Donald stayed in the Cincinnati community, transporting patients at UC Medical Center, and in 2020 because of his work and dedication during the COVID-19 pandemic, was awarded the “Hero of the World” award by the World Boxing Council, the international governing body for boxing; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Larry (the “Legend”) Donald has made a lasting impact to the Cincinnati community and to the City of Cincinnati’s citizens, and his contributions and service in the sport of boxing and his impact on the Cincinnati community will long be remembered; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That Windsor Street at Gilbert Avenue in the Walnut Hills neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “Larry A. Donald Way” in honor of Larry Donald and in recognition of his contributions and dedication to the City of Cincinnati through the sport of boxing and his impact to the community.

Section 2. That the appropriate City officials are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and proper to implement the provisions of Section 1 herein, including the generation and installation of appropriate secondary street signage, which shall designate Windsor Street at Gilbert Avenue in the Walnut Hills neighborhood as “Larry A. Donald Way” in accordance with the Department of Transportation and Engineering’s procedures relating to street designation and related signage.

Section 3. That a copy of this ordinance be sent to Larry A. Donald via the office of Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare and shall, subject to the terms of Article II, Section 6 of the Charter, be effective immediately. The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to allow the Department of Transportation and Engineering to move forward

with the administrative requirements related to the honorary naming of streets to provide for the ceremony and dedication of the honorary street name at the earliest possible time.

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

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Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk