

EMERGENCY

City of Cincinnati

JRS

EESW

An Ordinance No. _____

- 2026

DECLARING that Washington Avenue at Greenwood Avenue in the Avondale neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “George and Ruby Malone Way” in honor of George and Ruby Malone, and their lifelong commitment to homeownership for Black Cincinnatians and their enduring impact to the Cincinnati community.

WHEREAS, George and Ruby Malone were long-term avid community members within Avondale and the Cincinnati black community, and the owners of the Malone Apartment Homes, providing affordable housing for Avondale residents; and

WHEREAS, George Malone was born in 1918 in Athens, Alabama, to Ben and Fannie Malone and attended Kentucky State University where he was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated, remaining a member for seventy years; and

WHEREAS, Ruby Malone was born in March 1920 to Raymond and Sallie Wills of Mt. Sterling, Kentucky and attended Morgan State University where she was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, serving as President for the Sigma Omega Chapter; and

WHEREAS, Ruby Malone worked for the Internal Revenue Services (IRS) and received the Top Federal Employee in Greater Cincinnati Award in 1978 prior to her retirement; Ruby also served as a founding member of Top Ladies of Distinction and Les Birdies Golf Club; and

WHEREAS, George and Ruby Malone married in 1947 and remained married for 61 beautiful years, having one child, Dr. Kimya Moyo; and

WHEREAS, George and Ruby Malone were longstanding members of First Unitarian Church for over 45 years; and

WHEREAS, George Malone opened his own insurance business in downtown Cincinnati, New Era Real Estate, during a time when Black people could not purchase things in their own names; George served as a champion for other Black families looking to buy homes and establish a life for themselves by writing insurance for housing projects in Cincinnati and the surrounding communities, including Lincoln Heights; and

WHEREAS, George Malone purchased six apartment buildings in 1967 on Washington Avenue in Avondale and later became the first Black man to develop a short-lived million-dollar condominium project in the College Hill neighborhood, giving residents an opportunity for homeownership; and

WHEREAS, George Malone received several awards for his contributions to Black homeownership, including the Wright-Overstreet Memorial Award in 1991 from the Cincinnati Chapter of the NAACP, and received several awards for community leadership, including awards from the Sankofa Educational Enrichment Program and the Association of Black Insurance Professionals; and

WHEREAS, George and Ruby Malone passed away in 2009 and 2011, and their daughter, Dr. Kimya Moyo, took ownership of the Malone Apartments to continue the legacy left by her parents; and

WHEREAS, George and Ruby Malone made a lasting impact on the Cincinnati community by serving as catalysts to increase Black homeownership in Cincinnati and by advancing and enhancing the Black community in Avondale and the larger Cincinnati community where their efforts and impact will long be remembered; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That Washington Avenue at Greenwood Avenue in the Avondale neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “George and Ruby Malone Way” in honor of George and Ruby Malone and in recognition of their impact on the Cincinnati community and their lifelong commitment to homeownership for Black Cincinnatians.

Section 2. That the appropriate City of Cincinnati 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 Washington Avenue at Greenwood Avenue in the Avondale neighborhood as “George and Ruby Malone 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 the family of George and Ruby Malone via the office of Councilmember Meeka Owens.

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: _____, 2026

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk