

EMERGENCY

City of Cincinnati

JRS

EESW

An Ordinance No. _____ - 2023

DECLARING that Auburn Avenue at Dorchester Avenue in the Mount Auburn neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “Carl B. Westmoreland Way” in honor of Carl B. Westmoreland and in recognition of his contributions to the Cincinnati community along with his service in historic research and advocacy for civil rights.

WHEREAS, Carl Westmoreland was a leader in urban revitalization and preservation, from the grassroots community level to national and international arenas, and served as a pioneer for the larger preservation movement, especially African American historic preservation; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, Carl Westmoreland worked with the African American Mount Auburn community and other community individuals to form the Mount Auburn Good Housing Foundation to renovate damaged buildings throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, Carl Westmoreland was involved in the renovation of over 2,000 homes and businesses and further provided technical assistance to other non-profit housing groups in Cincinnati and more than ninety other cities throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Carl Westmoreland became the first African American Trustee of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which led to his involvement in the Savannah Neighborhood Action Conference: Tenants and Landlords; and

WHEREAS, his work with the Savannah Neighborhood Action Conference: Tenants and Landlords brought together preservationists from all over the country to explore alternatives to deterioration and displacement in inner city neighborhoods and led to his nomination, in 1979, for the Rockefeller Foundation Award for Historic Preservation; and

WHEREAS, Carl Westmoreland’s work in historic preservation led to his receipt of America’s highest award for historic preservation, the Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his efforts nationally and international, Mr. Carl Westmoreland never lost his dedication to the City of Cincinnati and served as an American community organizer, preservationist, and senior historian at the National Underground Railroad “Freedom Center” and lead organizations small and large from Madisonville Housing Services to the Cincinnati Housing Service to the Ohio Preservation Alliance; and

WHEREAS, Carl B. Westmoreland passed away on Thursday, March 10, 2022, and was survived by his sons, Guy Westmoreland and Carl Westmoreland II; a granddaughter and three great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Carl Westmoreland's legacy lives on at the Freedom Center through his service as a Senior Advisor and curator for its main exhibit—the Slave Pen exhibit, which structure was used in Mason County, Kentucky in the 1800s as a temporary holding pen for enslaved persons, and his efforts remains a large presence at the Freedom Center and continue to inspire research in the history of African-Americans in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Carl B. Westmoreland has made a lasting impact to the Cincinnati community and to the City of Cincinnati's citizens, and his contributions and service in historic research and advocacy for civil rights will long be remembered; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That Auburn Avenue at Dorchester Avenue in the Mount Auburn neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of "Carl B. Westmoreland Way" in honor of Carl B. Westmoreland and in recognition of his contributions and dedication to the City of Cincinnati through public service.

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 Auburn Avenue at Dorchester Avenue as "Carl B. Westmoreland 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 Carl B. Westmoreland 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: _____, 2023

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk