

EMERGENCY

City of Cincinnati

JRS

EESW/EEF

An Ordinance No. _____

- 2025

DECLARING that Reading Road at Gholson Avenue in the Avondale neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “Katt Williams Way” in honor of Micah “Katt” Williams, and in recognition of his contributions to the City of Cincinnati as a nationally recognized stand-up comedian, actor, and producer who has risen to fame due to his outstanding talent, hard work, and perseverance.

WHEREAS, Micah (“Katt”) Williams was born on September 2, 1971, at Christ Hospital in Cincinnati and lived in the Avondale neighborhood, where he began performing stand-up comedy; and

WHEREAS, at the age of thirteen, Mr. Williams moved out of his parents’ home and traveled to Florida to support himself as a street seller and began developing his comic delivery by performing his routine in cities across the country; and

WHEREAS, by 1999, Mr. Williams established himself as a stand-up comedian, performing in venues such as The Improv, The Comedy Club, The Ice House, and The Hollywood Park Casino; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams’ first acting role was in the popular television series, “NYPD Blue” in 2002 and he continued his rise to fame after appearing on “Wild ‘n Out” for numerous seasons; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Mr. Williams starred in the official music video for his “Wild ‘n Out” bandmate’s, Nick Cannon, hit single, “Gigolo”; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Mr. Williams starred in his first comedy spectacular, “Katt Williams: Live: Let a Playa Play” and his first HBO stand-up special, “The Pimp Chronicles, Part 1,” was also released in 2006; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, Mr. Williams played a character named Slickback, in the movie “The Boondocks,” and Mr. Williams was given a movie/standup comedy project which he termed, “American Hustle” which was a critical hit, and it helped to establish him as a mainstream comic; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, Mr. Williams’ second HBO comedy special, “It’s Pimpin’ Pimpin’,” was released, and the same year, Mr. Williams played himself as a stand-up comedian in the video game, “Grand Theft Auto IV” and continued his career by creating comedy DVDs and performing, and his 2008 comedy tour was rated the best of the year by Billboard; and

WHEREAS, after a four-year break, Mr. Williams returned to stand-up comedy in 2012 with “Kattpacalypse,” his third HBO comedy special, and in 2014, he had a fourth HBO special titled, “Katt Williams: Priceless: Afterlife,” and in 2018, his stand-up special “Great America” was released on Netflix; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Willaims has been featured in supporting roles in films such as “First Sunday,” “Norbit,” and “Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore,” and he is best known for his role as Money Mike in “Friday After Next”; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams has appeared in television shows including in several episodes of “My Wife and Kids,” he was the roastmaster of Flavor Flav’s “Comedy Central Roast,” and he is known for his role as “Katt ‘In the Hat’ Williams” on BET’s “Comic View”; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, Mr. Williams received a Primetime Emmy Award for ‘Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series’ for his role as “Willy” in the season two premiere of “Atlanta”; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Micah (“Katt”) Williams has made a lasting impact to the Cincinnati community and to the City of Cincinnati’s citizens, and his contributions as a nationally recognized stand-up comedian, actor, and producer will long be remembered; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That Reading Road at Gholson Avenue in the Avondale neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “Katt Willams Way” in honor of Micah “Katt” Williams and in recognition of his contributions as a nationally recognized stand-up comedian, actor, and producer 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 Reading Road at Gholson Avenue in the Avondale neighborhood as “Katt Williams 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 Mr. Williams 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

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk