

EMERGENCY

City of Cincinnati

JRS

EESW

An Ordinance No. _____

- 2026

RENAMING Bank Street to William L. Mallory, Sr. Street in the West End neighborhood of the City of Cincinnati notwithstanding Council Resolution No. 16-2003, any Committee of Names conflicting rules and regulations, or any provision of the Cincinnati Municipal Code that would prohibit a street name that is similar to another street name outside the City of Cincinnati but within Hamilton County; **MODIFYING** Chapter 507, "One-Way Streets," of the Cincinnati Municipal Code by **AMENDING** Sections 507-1-C6, "Colerain Avenue, south from Brighton Lane to Bank Street," 507-1-W4, "Western Avenue, south from Bank Street to Gest Street," and 507-1-W7, "Winchell Avenue, north from Lincoln Park Drive to 125 feet north of Bank Street," to reflect the name change of Bank Street to William L. Mallory, Sr. Street.

WHEREAS, William Leslie Mallory was born on October 4, 1931, in Cincinnati, Ohio, and grew up in Cincinnati's West End neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, William L. Mallory was elected president of the West End Community Council; and

WHEREAS, in 1966, William L. Mallory was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives, the beginning of a 28-year career in the Ohio legislature. Eight years later, he was elected Majority Floor Leader, the first African American to hold that position. He retired in 1994 holding the record for being the longest serving majority leader in Ohio's history and the longest serving Ohio representative from Hamilton County; and

WHEREAS, during his service in the General Assembly, Rep. Mallory sponsored or co-sponsored more than 600 pieces of legislation, including legislation creating the first state-wide drug prevention program, the Urban Minority Alcohol Drug Outreach Program (UMADOP). His legislation also helped to finance the Riverfront Stadium and Fountain Square South in Cincinnati and created the home furlough program for non-violent prisoners upon their release from prison; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Rep. Mallory filed a lawsuit charging discrimination in the election of judges on a countywide basis. As a result, fourteen judicial districts were established, making it easier for African American candidates to win seats in the Hamilton County Municipal Court; and

WHEREAS, in Cincinnati, Rep. Mallory played a major role in the creation of a publicly owned transit system, now known as Metro, by serving as co-chairman of the Citizen's Transportation Committee. Later during a 36-day bus strike, he and his wife organized a carpool to transport workers and students in the West End to their jobs and schools throughout the city; and

WHEREAS, Rep. Mallory also worked to create the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission which replaced the Mayor's Friendly Relations Committee. Rep. Mallory was influential in locating the Queen City Vocational School in the West End and for creating the first community housing development corporation which built Uptown Towers; and

WHEREAS, on the national level, Rep. Mallory was appointed to the National Highway Safety Advisory Committee by President Jimmy Carter and to the Intergovernmental Policy Advisory Committee by President Bill Clinton; and

WHEREAS, Rep. Mallory over his illustrious career won many awards for his support of education, senior citizens, drug prevention and treatment, and reentry issues. Two of his notable awards include the City Manager's Award for his contributions to the City of Cincinnati, and the Martin Luther King Dream Keeper award; and

WHEREAS, Central State University awarded him an honorary Doctorate of Law degree in 1972, the first one given to an alumnus. He was also inducted into Central State University's Hall of Fame and has a street named in his honor on the campus; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Rep. Mallory was chosen in a survey by the WCIN Radio Station as one of the fifty most influential African Americans of the past fifty years; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, Rep. Mallory was honored by the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber as a Great Living Cincinnatian, and in 2009 he received the Triumph Award from the Emanuel Community Center. The Mallory Family was honored by the Visiting Nurses Association of Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky in 2010; and

WHEREAS, in his political career, Rep. Mallory's accomplishments included serving as chairman of the House Select Committee on Technology and as vice-chairman of the House Committee on Health Care Reform. He was co-chairman of the Hamilton County Democratic Party and president of the Black Elected Democrats of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement, Rep. Mallory engaged in numerous causes. He founded the Mallory Center for Community Development, a non-profit agency in Cincinnati, as well as the African American Historical Ball, an annual event honoring great African Americans; and

WHEREAS, Rep. Mallory and his wife, Fannie Mallory, created a strong, committed family. While in college, Rep. Mallory met his wife, Fannie. They married in 1955 and had six children, all successful in the community. The Honorable William Mallory, Jr. and The Honorable Dwayne Mallory are current judges in the Hamilton County Municipal Court. The Honorable Mark Mallory is a former Mayor of the City of Cincinnati, and Dale Mallory served in the Ohio General Assembly, representing the 32nd Ohio House District. Joe Mallory is the immediate past president of the Cincinnati NAACP, former Vice Mayor of Forest Park, Ohio, and former Election Administrator with the Hamilton County Board of Elections. Leslie Denise Mallory, who passed in October 2025, was a sales representative for the Ohio Lottery; and

WHEREAS, Rep. Mallory passed in Cincinnati on December 10, 2013; and

WHEREAS, William L. Mallory, Sr. Street is not an existing street name in the City of Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, petitions to rename streets are considered pursuant to Council Resolution No. 16-2003, which calls for petitions to be reviewed by the Committee of Names and the City Planning Commission prior to approval by Council; and

WHEREAS, Council seeks to rename Bank Street to William L. Mallory, Sr. Street notwithstanding the requirements of Council Resolution No. 16-2003, the Committee of Names process and Section III. A. of the Committee of Names Procedures and Criteria, or any provision of the Cincinnati Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, Council finds that renaming Bank Street to William L. Mallory, Sr. Street to be in the best interests of the City and the general public's health, safety, and welfare; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That Bank Street depicted on the map attached hereto as Attachment A and incorporated herein shall be renamed William L. Mallory, Sr. Street, notwithstanding the requirements of Council Resolution No. 16-2003, the Committee of Names process and Section III. A. of the Committee of Names Procedures and Criteria, or any provision of the Cincinnati Municipal Code.

Section 2. That Sections 507-1-C6, "Colerain Avenue, south from Brighton Lane to Bank Street," 507-1-W4, "Western Avenue, south from Bank Street to Gest Street," and 507-1-W7, "Winchell Avenue, north from Lincoln Park Drive to 125 feet north of Bank Street," of the Cincinnati Municipal Code, will be amended to read as follows, upon the commencement of work for the street renaming:

Sec. 507-1-C6. - Colerain Avenue, south from the intersection of Harrison Avenue and Central Avenue ~~Brighton Lane~~ to ~~Bank~~ William L. Mallory, Sr. Street.

Sec. 507-1-W7. - Winchell Avenue, north from ~~Lincoln Park~~ Ezzard Charles Drive to 125 feet north of ~~Bank~~ William L. Mallory, Sr. Street.

Sec. 507-1-W4. - Western Avenue, south from 283 feet north of Findlay ~~Bank~~ Street to Gest Street,"

Section 3. That the appropriate City officials are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and proper to implement the provisions of Sections 1 through 3 herein, including the generation and installation of appropriate signage, in accordance with the Department of Transportation and Engineering procedures relating to street designation and related signage.

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 City Administration to move forward with the administration requirements related to the street renaming to provide for the ceremony and dedication at the earliest possible time.

Passed: _____, 2026

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

New language underscored. Deleted language indicated by strikethrough.