

**Date:** November 9, 2021

**To:** Mayor John Cranley  
**From:** Andrew W. Garth, City Solicitor *AWG*  
**Subject:** **Emergency Ordinance – Honorary Street Name Dr. Steven Reece Sr. Way (B  
VERSION)**

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Transmitted herewith is an emergency ordinance captioned as follows:

**DECLARING** that the intersection of East Seymour Street and Langdon Farm Road in the Bond Hill neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “Dr. Steven Reece Sr. Way” in honor of Dr. Steven Reece Sr. and in recognition of his contributions and dedication to the City of Cincinnati.

AWG/JRS/(lnk)  
Attachment  
352812.2

EMERGENCY

City of Cincinnati

JRS/B

AWB

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

- 2021

**DECLARING** that the intersection of East Seymour Street and Langdon Farm Road in the Bond Hill neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “Dr. Steven Reece Sr. Way” in honor of Dr. Steven Reece Sr. and in recognition of his contributions and dedication to the City of Cincinnati.

WHEREAS, Dr. Steven Reece Sr. is a longtime civic leader, businessman, entrepreneur, and leader in civic empowerment in the City of Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Reece Sr. graduated from Withrow High school in 1965; and

WHEREAS, following the 1968 riots in the City, Dr. Reece Sr. developed Operation Step Up which helped inner city youths with musical talents; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Reece Sr. was the Chief of Staff to the City’s first African American Mayor, Ted Barry, in 1972 at the age of 27; and

WHEREAS, after leaving City Hall, Dr. Reece Sr. founded Communiplex as an advertising, marketing, and promotions company and was a founding member of the first African American Chamber of Commerce in Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Reece Sr. has served on the national boards for Rev. Jesse Jackson’s Rainbow Push Coalition and Dr. Martin Luther King’s Operation Breadbasket; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Reece Sr. has served at the New Friendship Baptist Church, has a doctorate degree from Temple Bible College, and is active in the Masons, including by organizing the Black and White Masons to engage for the first time in fraternal recognition; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Steven Reece Sr. and his late wife, Barbara Reece, owned a meeting and banquet center in Bond Hill known as Integrity Hall, which was the largest Black-owned commercial mixed-use development in the City in 1988; and

WHEREAS, for over 20 years, Integrity Hall remained an entrepreneurship center for Black businesses, hosting over 3,000 events, including banquets, weddings, receptions, seminars, family reunions, private parties, and rallies, which included three presidential rallies; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Steven Reece Sr.’s contributions and dedication to the City of Cincinnati and its citizens will long be remembered; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That the intersection of East Seymour Street and Langdon Farm Road in the Bond Hill neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “Dr. Steven Reece Sr. Way” in honor of Dr. Steven Reece Sr. and in recognition of his contributions and dedication to the City of Cincinnati.

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 the intersection of East Seymour Street and Langdon Farm Road as “Dr. Steven Reece Sr. 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 Dr. Steven Reece Sr. and his family via the office of Mayor John Cranley.

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: \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Cranley, Mayor

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