

City of Alexandria, Virginia

CITY COUNCIL NAMING COMMITTEE

**City Council Workroom
301 King Street**

**Tuesday, August 10, 2021
6 p.m.**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order: Councilwoman Pepper, Chair
2. Consideration of an Electronic Meeting Policy
3. Consideration of a Confederate Street Renaming Policy
Tony LaColla, AICP, Land Use Services Division Chief, Planning & Zoning
Karl Moritz, Director, Planning and Zoning
4. Public Comment
5. Adjournment

The City Council Naming Committee is comprised of two members of City Council and the City Manager or his/her designee.

Current Members:

- Councilwoman Redella "Del" Pepper, Chair
- Councilman John Chapman
- Jack Browand, City Manager Designee

ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION POLICY TEMPLATE

City of Alexandria
City Council
Naming Committee
Electronic Participation Policy

The following policy is established for members' remote electronic participation in City Council Naming meetings due to:

1. A personal matter

- a. On or before the day of a meeting, the member shall notify the Chair that the member is unable to attend the meeting due to a personal matter. The member must identify with specificity the nature of the personal matter.
- b. A quorum of the City Council Naming Committee must be physically assembled at the primary or central meeting location.
- c. The Chair may approve or disapprove the request for electronic participation. If the absent member's remote participation is disapproved because such participation would violate this policy, the basis for the disapproval shall be recorded in City Council Naming Committee's minutes. The decision shall be based solely on the criteria in this policy, without regard to the identity of the member or matters that will be considered or voted on during the meeting.
- d. The City Council Naming Committee shall record the specific nature of the personal matter and the remote location from which the absent member participated in the City Council Naming Committee's minutes.
- e. Participation by the absent member due to a personal matter shall be limited in each calendar year to two (2) meetings of the City Council Naming Committee.

2. A temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition

- a. On or before the day of a meeting, the member shall notify the Chair that the member is unable to attend the meeting due to a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents his or her physical attendance.
- b. A quorum of the Board must be physically assembled at the primary or central meeting location.
- c. The City Council Naming Committee] shall record the fact of the disability or other medical condition and the remote location from which the absent member participated in the City Council Naming Committee's minutes.

3. For any remote participation, the City Council Naming Committee's shall make arrangements for the voice of the absent member or members to be heard by all persons in attendance at the meeting location.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JULY 30, 2021

TO: MEMBERS OF THE NAMING COMMITTEE

FROM: TONY LACOLLA, LAND USE SERVICES DIVISION CHIEF

SUBJECT: REVISION OF POLICY FOR CONFEDERATE STREET RENAMING

ISSUE: Revision of street renaming policy for public rights-of-way named for Confederate leaders.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Naming Committee receive and comment on the draft Confederate Street Renaming Policy prior to implementation in July 2021.

BACKGROUND: On April 1, 2021, the Naming Committee met to discuss simplifying the process for renaming of streets named for Confederate leaders. Staff presented recommendations and received a number of suggestions. Those include the following:

- Planning & Zoning staff should develop a Confederate Street Renaming Pilot Program to include renaming three streets and then revise policy based on lessons learned from the pilot program.
- Work with OHA to update and revise 2016 list of Confederate street names.
- Work with OHA to develop a list of new street names petitioners could use for renaming.
- Require petitions from 25% of “property owners” along a right-of-way to initiate a street name change rather than the 75% currently required.
- Develop a list of “impacts” to inform the public.
- Staff will not proceed with renaming of Van Dorn, Beauregard, and Picket. Those should be citizens led efforts only after a pilot program.

DISCUSSION:

Based on feedback from the Naming Committee, staff revised the Street Renaming Policy to incorporate suggestions including reducing the percentage of property owners required to sign a petition and developing a list of impacts associated with a right-of-way renaming. In addition, Planning & Zoning staff worked with the Office of Historic Alexandria to update the 2016 list of Confederate street names.

In addition to providing to providing an easier path forward for renaming roadways named after Confederate leaders, staff is proposing creating a waiver of signature requirements for non-Confederate street names. Beyond Confederate leaders, there are roadways named for controversial figures for which citizens might wish to submit a renaming application. Asking the Naming Committee for a waiver from the 75% signature requirement would allow an easier path forward.

Given the updated list and revised policy, staff intends to launch a pilot program to consider up to three street renaming's beginning in July 2021. After the pilot program concludes, staff will determine potential policy changes and make recommendations to the Naming Committee for refinement.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Confederate Street Renaming Policy
2. Inventory of Confederate Street Names in Alexandria -2021

STAFF:

Karl Moritz, Planning and Zoning

Tony LaColla, AICP, Planning and Zoning

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT
CONFEDERATE STREET RENAMING POLICY
2021/222 Pilot Program

Effective August 2021

PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY

The purpose of this policy statement is to provide standard procedures for street renaming requests for roadways named for Confederate soldiers and leaders. Authority for street naming and renaming is defined by City Code Sec. 5-2-66 - Ordinance required for change of street name which states that, "The name of any street designated by the official naming map referred to in section 5-2-63 of this code or by subsequent designation by the planning commission shall not be changed except by the adoption of an ordinance by the city council. (Code 1963, Sec.33-46)".

POLICY STATEMENTS

Requesting a name change for roadways classified as an arterial and expressway, local, primary collector, residential collector, alley or unnamed alley

For any roadway identified on the *Inventory of Confederate Street Names – June 2021* list, a petitioner is allowed to complete and submit a *Street Name Change* application through the Alexandria Permit and Planning portal (APEX) which includes a petition signed by a minimum of 25% of property owners with addresses along the roadway. For an alley, the petition should include signatures from property owners with addresses along the alley and owners with addresses from abutting properties that might not be addressed off the alley.

Prior to submitting a final application, applicants are required to hold and document a minimum of one citizen led public meeting/info session (virtual, in-person, or hybrid) to inform impacted property owners and residents of the proposed name change. The meeting shall be documented including participants, presentation materials, and meeting notes. The presentation shall include historic background information for the current street name, justification for street renaming, background information or history for the proposed street name, and information as to the impacts of the street renaming on property owners and residents. The applicant is required to provide mailed public notice for the public meeting/info session.

The purpose of the petition and documented community meeting is to demonstrate property owner support for the renaming request as well as alert property owners of the request and future public hearings that would occur on the matter.

Waiver of Signature Requirements for Non-Confederate Street Names

For streets not on the *Inventory of Confederate Street Names – June 2021* list but bearing the name of a person with a controversial history, a petitioner may request a waiver from the Naming Committee to obtain a petition signed by a minimum of 25% of property owners with addresses along the roadway (as opposed to the required 75% of property owners). Prior to collecting signatures, the petitioner must present historical research and justification at a Naming Committee meeting when requesting the waiver of signature requirements.

STREET RENAMING IMPACTS

Government related impacts:	Homeowner/Business related impacts:
USPS Administration – mail will be forwarded for 18 months after name change. Cost of new signage GIS maps changes	License changes Registration changes Billing changes Insurance changes Subscription changes Signage changes Stationary changes Advertising changes (print/TV/radio/online/social media/etc.)

FILING PROCEDURES

Prior to soliciting signatures and submitting a request form through [APEX](#), the petitioner shall speak with Department of Planning and Zoning staff to review the code criteria detailed in City Code Sec. 5-2-61 through 5-2-66 necessary for identifying an appropriate street name for consideration by City Council and identify a street name that would be amenable to the property owners. The name change request shall be submitted on the standard *Street Name Change Application* available through the [APEX Document Library](#). Application submissions must be received on or before the monthly filing deadline and must be submitted online via the [Alexandria Permit and Planning portal \(APEX\)](#).

Street Classification

Street classifications can be found using the [VDOT's street classification map](#).

Street name changes will not be considered if:

- The proposed street name is a duplication of an existing street name in Alexandria;
- The proposed street name change is a near duplication in spelling to an existing street or phonetically similar to an existing street;
- The existing street name has significant historical value to the City;
- The street name requested to be renamed is perceived to be offensive to segments of the City's citizenry;
- If the proposed street name change is longer than 14 characters;
- If the proposed street name is after a living person; and
- If the proposed street name is after commercial entity or implies a commercial endorsement.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Street Name Change application
- Site Plan
 - Location map of the proposed renaming with effected address range;
 - Identify and list all properties abutting the affected roadway.
- Signed Petition –
 - The petition must clearly identify the current and proposed street name and include history and justification for the change.

- The petition must be signed by a minimum of 25% of property owners abutting the roadway. Petitions can be submitted using the petition template provided in the application package, via e-mail, or by using an electronic petition website.
- Petitioners must include their name, valid address, and signatures. If submitting electronic petitions, a valid e-mail address must be submitted in lieu of a signature.
- Community Meeting documentation

All portions of the application package must be completed in order for the application to be reviewed. Upon receipt of a complete application, the request will be processed through the Department of Planning and Zoning, and the appropriate public hearings will be scheduled.

FILING FEE

There is no filing fee for change of street name applications for Confederate named streets or those that receive a waiver.

REVIEW PROCESS

- Once the application package has been accepted, it will be assigned a case number and circulated to various City agencies for their review and comment.
- Planning & Zoning staff will prepare a staff report with a recommendation to the Naming Committee which will make a recommendation to the Planning Commission which will then make a recommendation City Council for consideration and approval or denial.
- The review process will take approximately four months from time of application submission to hearing at City Council.
- Due to staffing limitations, a maximum of six street renaming applications per year will be accepted.

PROPERTY OWNER WRITTEN NOTIFICATION PRIOR TO HEARING

The City will provide written notice to all abutting property owners prior to Planning Commission and City Council public hearings.

REQUESTS TO DEFER OR WITHDRAW

At any point during the review process, the applicant may request that the application be deferred to an upcoming docket or withdrawn entirely. All requests to defer or withdraw must be submitted in writing. An application may also be put on hold for up to six months. It is the responsibility of the applicant to notify staff to re-docket a held application. If there is no activity within six months, the application will be withdrawn by staff.

INVENTORY OF CONFEDERATE STREET NAMES IN ALEXANDRIA, VA June 2021

Note: This is an update to the 2016 Inventory of Confederate Street Names in Alexandria, VA, based on additional research by the Office of Historic Alexandria. Sources include the City's 1952 ordinance on street naming, post-annexation maps of Alexandria's West End, and newspaper articles. Additions to the 2016 Inventory are noted with an asterisk (*).

Armistead Street – Named for Lewis Addison Armistead, General CSA; Armistead was married at Christ Church, Alexandria

Beauregard Street – Named for Pierre G.T. Beauregard, General, CSA; designer of the Confederate "Battle Flag"

Bragg Street – Named for Braxton Bragg, General, CSA

Breckinridge Place – Named for John Cabell Breckinridge, elected Vice President of the United States in 1856; later served as Brigadier General, CSA

Calhoun Avenue – Named for J. Lawrence Calhoun, Major, CSA

Chambliss Street – Named for John Randolph Chambliss, Jr., Brigadier General, CSA

***Davis Avenue** – Named for Jefferson Davis, former president of the Confederacy

Dearing Street – Named for James Dearing, the last Confederate general to die in battle

Donelson Street – Named for Daniel Smith Donelson, Brigadier General, CSA

Early Street – Named for Jubal A. Early, Brigadier General, CSA

***Evans Lane** – Named for Clement A. Evans, Brigadier General, CSA

Floyd Street – Named for John Buchanan Floyd, Brigadier General, CSA

Forrest Street – Named for Nathan Bedford Forrest, General, CSA; or for French Forrest, Confederate navy commander and builder of the CSS ironclad *Virginia*

French Street – Named for Samuel Gibbs French, Brigadier General, CSA

Frost Street – Named for Daniel Marsh Frost, Brigadier General, CSA

Gordon Street – Named for John Brown Gordon, General, CSA

Hardee Place – Named for William Joseph Hardee, General, CSA

Imboden Street – Named for John D. Imboden, Brigadier General, CSA

Iverson Street – Named for Alfred Iverson, Jr., Brigadier General, CSA

Jackson Place – Named for James W. Jackson, CSA defender who killed Union Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth at the Marshall House during the Federal occupation of Alexandria on May 24, 1861, and was then killed by one of Ellsworth's soldiers.

Janney's Lane – Named for Eli Hamilton Janney, Major, CSA; owned property along that roadway in Alexandria

***Jenkins Street** – Named for Micah Jenkins, Brigadier General, CSA

Jordan Street – Named for Thomas Jordan, Brigadier General, CSA

Kemper Street – Named for James Lawson Kemper, Major General, CSA

Lee Street – Named for the Lee family of Virginia, first surveyed in 1749 as Water Street until it was changed to Lee Street upon the death of Mrs. Robert E. Lee in 1874

Longstreet Lane – Named for James Longstreet, Lieutenant General, CSA

***Marshall Lane** – Named for either Humphrey Marshall, Brigadier General, CSA; or Charles Marshall, Colonel, CSA and aide to General Robert E. Lee

Maury Lane – Named for Matthew Fontaine Maury, Chief of Sea Coast, River and Harbor Defenses for the Confederacy; in 1850s attempted to eradicate slavery from the United States by re-settling enslaved people in the South to South America

***Morgan Street** – Named for John Tyler Morgan, Brigadier General, CSA

Mosby Street -- Named for John Singleton Mosby, Confederate cavalry battalion commander

***Paxton Street** – Named for Elisha Franklin Paxton, Brigadier General, CSA

Pegram Street – Named for John Pegram, Brigadier General, CSA

***Pickett Street** – Named for George E. Pickett, Brigadier General, CSA

Quantrell Avenue – Named for William Clark Quantrell, General, CSA

***Ripley Street** – Named for Roswell Sabine Ripley, General, CSA

Rosser Street – Named for Thomas Lafayette Rosser, Major General, CSA

Stonewall Road – Named for Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, General, CSA

Van Dorn Street – Named for Earl Van Dorn, Brigadier General, CSA

Walker Street – Named for Reuben Lindsay Walker, Brigadier General, CSA

Wheeler Avenue – Named for Joseph Wheeler, Brigadier General, CSA

Whiting Street – Named for William Henry Chase Whiting, Brigadier General, CSA

INVENTORY OF POSSIBLE CONFEDERATE STREET NAMES IN ALEXANDRIA, VA – 2021

Note: This is an update to the 2016 Inventory of Confederate Street Names in Alexandria, VA, based on additional research by the Office of Historic Alexandria. Sources include the City's 1952 ordinance on street naming, post-annexation maps of Alexandria's West End, and newspaper articles. Additions to the 2016 Inventory are noted with an asterisk (*). All street names on this list require further research to confirm attribution.

Cockrell Avenue – Possibly named for either Francis Marion Cockrell, Brigadier General, CSA, or Cockrell family property in Alexandria

Frazier Street – Possibly named for James Frazier, Colonel, CSA

Gorgas Place – Possibly named for Josiah Gorgas, chief of ordnance for the Confederacy, and later Brigadier General, CSA

***Griffith Street** – Possibly named for Richard Griffith, Brigadier General, CSA

Hampton Drive – Possibly named for Wade Hampton, Confederate cavalry officer promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General

Herbert Street – Possibly named for Arthur Herbert, Colonel, 17th Virginia Regiment, CSA; with John W. Burke, he established the banking firm of Burke & Herbert in 1852

Hume Avenue – Possibly named for Frank Hume, a former Confederate soldier and spy who settled in Alexandria

***Ivor Lane** – Possibly named for Sergeant James W. Ivor, Co. G, 17th Virginia Regiment, whose name is inscribed on the pedestal of the Confederate monument *Appomattox* with other Alexandrians killed in the war; he was also said to be the model for the painting *Appomattox* by John Adams Elder, which inspired the pose of the Confederate soldier in the monument *Appomattox*

Kirkland Place – Possibly named for Sergeant Kirkland, a Confederate soldier who was called the “angel” of the Battle of Fredericksburg, who cared for wounded Federal soldiers; also possibly named for William Whedbee Kirkland, Brigadier General, CSA

***Page Terrace** – Possibly named for Richard Lucian Page, Confederate navy commander and Brigadier General, and a cousin of Robert E. Lee

Palmer Place – Possibly named for Joseph Benjamin Palmer, Brigadier General, CSA

Pelham Street – Possibly named for John Pelham, Lieutenant Colonel, CSA

Pierpont Street – Possibly named for James Lord Pierpont, musical composer of *Strike For the South*, and CSA hero

Pryor Street – Possibly named for Roger Atkinson Pryor, General, CSA

Reynolds Street – Possibly named for Alexander Welch Reynolds or Daniel H. Reynolds, Brigadier Generals, CSA

Roberts Street – Possibly named for William Paul Roberts, Brigadier General, CSA

Rhoades Place – Possibly named for Robert G. Rhoades, General, CSA

Scott Street – Possibly named for Thomas Moore Scott, Brigadier General, CSA

Shelley Street – Possibly named for Charles Miller Shelley, Brigadier General, CSA

Sibley Street – Possibly named for Henry Hopkins Sibley, Brigadier General, CSA

Sterling Avenue – Possibly named for Sterling Price, General, CSA

Stevens Street – Possibly named for Clement Hoffman Stevens, Brigadier General, CSA; or Walter Husted Stevens, Brigadier General, CSA (and chief engineer of the Army of Northern Virginia)

Stevenson Avenue – Possibly named for Carter Littlepage Stevenson, Brigadier General, CSA

Stewart Street – Possibly named for Alexander P. Stewart, General, CSA

***Terrill Street** – Possibly named for James Barbour Terrill, Brigadier General, CSA

Thomas Street – Possibly named for Allen Thomas, Brigadier General, CSA; or Edward Lloyd Thomas, Brigadier General, CSA

Tyler Place – Possibly named for Grayson Tyler, field officer, 17th Virginia Regiment, CSA; or Robert Tyler, General, CSA