



# Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County, TN

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** BL2020-509, **Version:** 1

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An ordinance to amend the Geographical Information Systems Map for The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, by renaming the private road Dixie Place from 21<sup>st</sup> Ave S to the dead end as "Vivien Thomas Way". (Proposal No. 2020M-007SR-001).

An ordinance to amend the Geographical Information Systems Map for The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, by renaming the private road Dixie Place from 21<sup>st</sup> Ave S to the dead end as "Vivien Thomas Way". (Proposal No. 2020M-007SR-001).

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Government deems it necessary to name private streets and roads in order to better provide services, particularly emergency services, to the residents of Davidson County; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest that the Geographical Information Systems Map be maintained to properly reflect the names of private streets and roads in Davidson County; and

WHEREAS, Vivien Theodore Thomas (1910-1985) graduated from Pearl High School in 1929 and was hired at age 19 as a laboratory assistant at Vanderbilt University Medical Center for surgeon Dr. Alfred Blalock; and

WHEREAS, although Mr. Thomas was paid as a janitor due to Jim Crow policies, he went on to play an integral role in the dawn of modern cardiac surgery through his work with Dr. Blalock.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. That the Geographical Information Systems Map for The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County is hereby amended, as follows:

The private road, Dixie Place, from 21<sup>st</sup> Ave S to the dead end, is hereby renamed "Vivien Thomas Way", all of which is more particularly described by lines, words and figures on the sketch which is attached hereto and made a part of this ordinance as though copied herein.

Section 2. That the Director of the Department of Public Works be and is hereby authorized and directed, upon the enactment and approval of this ordinance, to cause said change to be made on said Map as set out in Section 1 of this ordinance, and to make notation thereon of reference to the date of passage and approval of this amendatory ordinance.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall take effect from and after its final passage, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

### Analysis

This ordinance renames the private road Dixie Place located on Vanderbilt University's campus from 21<sup>st</sup> Ave. S. to a dead end as "Vivien Thomas Way." Mr. Thomas (1910-1985) was a 1929 Pearl High School graduate who was hired at age 19 as a laboratory assistant at Vanderbilt University Medical Center for surgeon Dr. Alfred Blalock. Over the years, Mr. Thomas went on to play an integral role in modern cardiac surgery practices through his work with Dr. Blalock.

Section 13.08.020 of the Metro Code provides that private roads may be named by the Council and marked as such by the Metropolitan Government upon review and recommendation by the Planning Commission.

This ordinance has been referred to the Planning Commission.