

BILL NO. BL2019-1521 (KINDALL) – On March 2, 2019, St. Thomas Midtown Hospital (formerly known as Baptist Hospital) will celebrate its centennial anniversary. This ordinance would establish the honorary designation of “Saint Thomas Midtown Way” for a portion of 20th Avenue North, between Church Street and Patterson Street, adjacent to the hospital.

Section 13.08.025 of the Metro Code of Laws provides a procedure for the use of honorary street signs whereby the Council, by ordinance, can authorize and direct the Department of Public Works to install two (2) honorary street signs per street – at each end of a street – beneath the official street name sign for any street identified on the official Street and Alley Centerline Layer map.

Section 13.08.015 of the Metro Code prohibits street name changes for the purpose of promoting a private business. But such prohibitions do not extend to honorary designations under Section 13.08.025. Neither this ordinance, nor honorary street names in general, officially rename the designated street. Therefore, there would be no change of official street address for any residents or businesses on 20th Avenue North.

Fiscal Note: Pursuant to MCL Sec. 13.08.025, the Department of Public Works will absorb the costs for making and installing up to five (5) honorary street sign designations per calendar year. Any additional honorary signs after these first five must identify a specific funding source for the new signs. The sign for the honorary designation for Saint Thomas Midtown would be the first in 2019.

The historic cost for one of these honorary signs has been estimated to be between \$80 and \$90. If a sign is mounted on a separate post, this would add approximately \$22 to the cost. The total cost would depend upon the number of signs necessary for the number of intersections in the street being so designated.