

RESOLUTION NO.: R-2015-033

Approving the honorary naming of the 5100, 5200 and 5300 blocks of Fairfield Road (US Hwy 321) between Winmet Drive and Alcott Drive to "Delta Sigma Theta Way"

WHEREAS, the Columbia (SC) Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was chartered as Beta Beta Sigma Chapter on November 16, 1940, by fifteen college-educated women determined to use their collective talents to serve their community and improve the lives of those living there; and,

WHEREAS, when chartered the Columbia (SC) Alumnae Chapter was the first African-American Greek letter sorority in Columbia and only the second graduate chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority in the state of South Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, for seventy-five (75) years, the Columbia (SC) Alumnae Chapter has served the local community by implementing a wide range of public service initiatives organized around the Sorority's Five-Point Programmatic Thrust: Economic Development, Educational Development, International Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health and Political Awareness and Involvement; and,

WHEREAS, those public service initiatives have included establishment of a Day Nursery at 700 Blanding St. to meet working mothers' need for quality, affordable childcare during the World War II era; operation of a thrift shop for low-income residents of the Waverly community during the 1960's and 70's; purchase of Delta House on Haskell Avenue in 1979 and Delta Life Development Center at 5307 Fairfield Road in 1996 to house community oriented programs; and,

WHEREAS, those public service initiatives have also included Black heritage seminars; career fairs; volunteer services at local hospitals and homes for the elderly; health, wellness, social and economic activities for senior citizens; volunteer reading programs at local elementary schools; voter registration, education and mobilization; expungement workshops; adult literacy and tutorial programs; health fairs, forums and workshops; and,

WHEREAS, the current programs for youth focus specifically on preparing middle and high school girls and middle school boys to excel and to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, science and technology; and,

WHEREAS, since 1962, the Columbia (SC) Alumnae Chapter, has sponsored a biennial mass cotillion, the Delta Assembly, in which young ladies of scholarship and character are provided a variety of activities designed to prepare them for social, educational and professional success, and in 2014 awarded more than \$13,000 in scholarships to the participating young ladies; and,

WHEREAS, since 1942 the chapter has awarded scholarships to other deserving Midlands students for college tuition as well as for summer educational and artistic enrichment and will in 2015 award nearly \$20,000 in scholarships; NOW, THEREFORE,

ORIGINAL
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BE IT RESOLVED this 2nd day of June, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia do hereby approve the honorary naming of the 5100, 5200 and 5300 blocks of Fairfield Road (US Hwy 321) between Winnet Drive and Alcott Drive to "Delta Sigma Theta Way". The design and color of the honorary toppers or signage shall be subject to the approval of the Director of Public Works.

Requested by:

Councilwoman Devine _____



Mayor

Approved by



City Manager

Approved as to form:



City Attorney

ATTEST:



City Clerk

Introduced: 6/2/2015

Final Reading: 6/2/2015