

On March 20, 2020, City Manager Gregory Rose declared a State of Emergency for the City of University City due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Due to the ongoing efforts to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the April 26, 2021 meeting will be conducted via videoconference.

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**JOINT NOTICE OF STUDY SESSION with RENAMING STREETS AND PARKS TASK FORCE  
and**

**DISCUSSION PROPOSED RPA 2 STEERING COMMITTEE**

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

April 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

**AGENDA**

1. Meeting called to order
2. Changes to Regular Agenda
3. Joint Discussion - Renaming Streets and Parks Task Force Report
4. Proposed Establishment of RPA 2 Steering Committee  
REQUESTED BY COUNCILMEMBERS SMOTHERSON AND CLAY
5. Adjournment

**Members of the public can view the meeting by one of the following:**

**Webinar** via the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87852229836?pwd=MFE2Ui80ZjVyc0hUY2ZYUXY2UDBsUT09>

Passcode: 126795

**Live Stream via YouTube:**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyN1EJ\\_-Q22918E9EZimWoQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyN1EJ_-Q22918E9EZimWoQ)

**Audio Only Call**

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +13017158592,,87852229836# or +13126266799,,87852229836#

Or Telephone:

US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 6833 or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free) or 888 788 0099 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 878 5222 9836

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87852229836>

Posted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2021.

LaRette Reese  
City Clerk





# Renaming Task Force

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CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

APRIL 26, 2021

**ANDREW:** Thank you, Mayor Crow & Councilpersons for the honor of serving on the Renaming Task force.



**ESLEY:** Founded in **1906** by **Edward Gardner Lewis**, first Mayor, as **“City Beautiful”** , building a **“high-class residential district”** on the **contours** of the landscape. **The city’s name reflected the proximity to Washington University, and Lewis’ hope that it would become a center of learning and culture.** Streets named for mostly for Ivy League Universities and English sounding names: Northmoor, Westmoreland; and made-up names like Delmar (Delaware & Maryland). Land 85 acres purchased by EG Lewis in 1902; served as Tent City for visitors of 1904 World’s Fair.

## Who We Are

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- ❖ Alice Boon, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward
- ❖ Mimi Taylor-Hendrix, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward
- ❖ Don Fitz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward
- ❖ Esley Hamilton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward, Historian
- ❖ Holly Ingraham, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward
- ❖ Andrew Wool, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward
- ❖ Susan Armstrong, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward, Chair

**ESLEY: Special Thanks to Mr. Errol Tate! And Ms. LaRette Reese. Task Force Members' Biographies start on page 12 of report.**

# University City Resolution 2020-12

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- ❖ **Inclusion and equity** are essential components of democracy and are ultimately beneficial to all encourage better community interaction, **cooperation, tolerance and understanding**...and reaffirmed its support for diversity and affirmative action programs (2009-22)
- ❖ **Rich tradition of diversity, acceptance, and tolerance** and “welcomes all regardless of race, religion, creed, culture, ancestry, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, familial status, income or education level (2016-26)
- ❖ Declared loyalty to being a welcoming city and **find ways to institutionalize welcoming efforts**...that promote inclusion (2017-5)
- ❖ **Condemned the message of white nationalism**, while encouraging on-going **respectful and honest conversations** among the people of UCity on issues that divide our community...(2017-16)

**HOLLY:** Resolution 2020-12 Established a Task Force consisting of 7 resident members appointed by the City Council. Complete the work in **120 days**. **Adopted September 14, 2020**. **We reviewed over 200 street names**. **Last Meeting Feb 1, 2021**. **Mandate is on Page 3 of Report**.

# Executive Summary

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- ❖ Researched street & park names using local experts, residents, books, and online resources
- ❖ Criteria: Did the person whom the street was named...
  - ✓ Practice inclusion and equity??
  - ✓ Welcome all??
  - ✓ Condemn white supremacy??
- ❖ If the person did not meet **UCity criteria**, the street name was considered offensive
- ❖ **Three tiers for offensive names:**
  - Tier 1: Offensive by Task Force Resolution
  - Tier 2: Names of Slave Owners
  - Tier 3: Possibly Offensive – Further Research Needed

**HOLLY: Offensive Names begin on Page 5 of the Report**

# Executive Summary

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## ❖ New names for consideration & Implementation

- “Detailed explanation” & “Establish criteria”
- Replacement names consistent with foundation Resolutions
- Collected from Citizens

## ❖ New Name Criteria

- Names of University City Residents
- Universities or Colleges
- HBCU
- Establish Equity by using names of slave revolt leaders
- Establish Equity by using names of Police victims and Black civilians killed by police
- Persons dead for 50 years
- Cities or States
- Reference our existence on Native American land, Osage
- Rededicating street or adding secondary sign to current street sign

**HOLLY: Citizen Comments begin on page 15. Chart of New Names collected from the Citizens is on the last pages of this report.**

# Executive Summary

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## ❖ Future Actions Recommended

- Hold well-publicized Zoom webinars for all UCity residents
- Reconvene Task Force to continue research
- Establish educational programs explaining the history of UCity racism in context of national/global racism
- Make this report available to UCity School District to increase awareness of destructive effects of racism
- Press Release
- Copy of Report to libraries and municipalities to assist in similar actions
- Encourage artistic/cultural groups to organize festivals for reenactments of slave revolts/stampedes
- Renaming ceremonies & celebrations inclusive of the diverse UCity residents & students

**HOLLY**

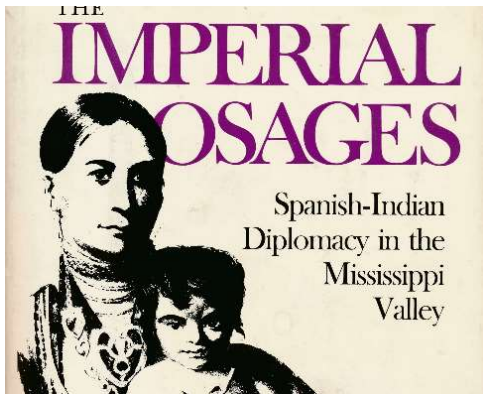
*“As we gather today, we acknowledge that this land is the traditional territory of the Osage Nation, and the Illinois Confederacy, which includes the Cahokia, Peoria, and Illini peoples. We therefore pay our respect to elders both past and present...”*

- INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

**MIMI**

## What We Learned

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- ❖ Osage Native Americans occupied these lands
  - Mound builders
  - Villages of 2-3,000
  - North & south banks of the Missouri River
  - 1100 AD greater populations than London
- ❖ Smallpox epidemic decimated the population in 1805
- ❖ In 1808, 52 million acres of Missouri Territory purchased from the Osage for \$5,000 or **0.005 cents per acre**
- ❖ Later Missouri legislation made it illegal for an Osage Native to live in Missouri

**MIMI:** Osage means “Children of the Middle Waters”.

Walter Johnson, author, argues that the genocide of Native Americans in the Mississippi Valley paved the way for the expansion of plantation slavery and its development into a fully capitalist economy—with global ambitions (Walter Johnson, May 2020 Harvard Magazine)

<https://vimeo.com/505954643>

Password: 1811Revolt

**DON:** 7.5 min video from Activist Dread Scott to Task Force emphasizing the importance of street names

## Offensive Names

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## What We Learned: Lord Jeffrey Amherst

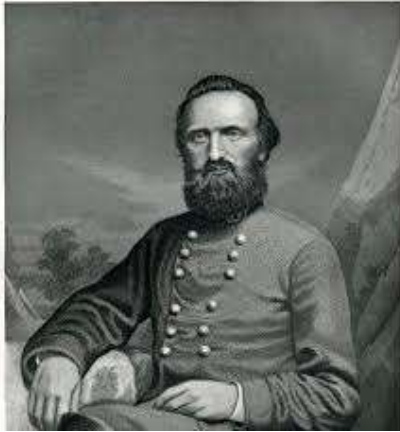
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- ❖ British officer in Northeast America
  - 1717-1797
- ❖ “Grandfather of Biological Warfare”
- ❖ Advocated smallpox laced blankets for Native Americans
- ❖ Amherst Street in UCity named for Amherst College
  - Named for Amherst, MA.
  - Named for Lord Jeffrey Amherst
- ❖ All struggling with legacy

**DON**

# What We Learned: Gen. Stonewall Jackson



- ❖ Jackson Street named for Stonewall Jackson
- ❖ **Confederate** General from 1861-1863
- ❖ Symbol for the ideals of the Confederacy
- ❖ Jackson Park / Mooney Park
- ❖ Jackson Park School

ESLEY

# What We Learned: President Woodrow Wilson



- President 1913-1921
  - 1856 birth -1924 death
- ❖ Considered Racist
  - Rolled back hard-fought gains of African Americans
  - Racial segregation
  - White supremacy
  - Authorized Jim Crow
- ❖ Oversaw segregation of multiple federal agencies

DON

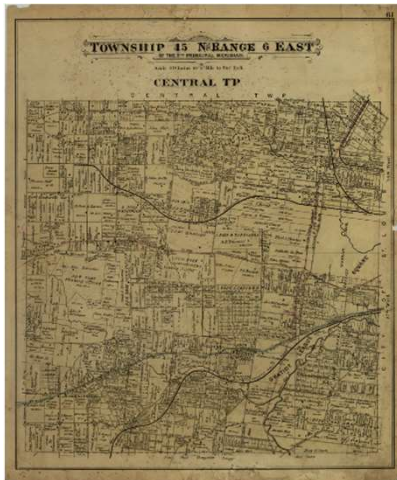
# What We Learned: Gen. John Pershing



- ❖ Born in Laclede, Missouri 1860 -1948
  - Nicknamed “Black Jack”
  - Taught black school children in 1878
  - Commanded Black Buffalo Soldiers in Indian Campaigns
    - Apache Wars (1849-1886)
    - Sioux Wars (1854-1890)
  - Attended cornerstone ceremony for Pershing School, 1919
- ❖ Served in Western Front in WWI (1917-1918)
- ❖ Supported Black troops as “separate but equal”

**SUSAN**

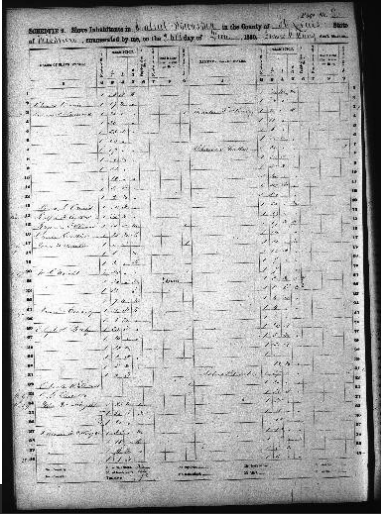
# What We Learned: Slaveholders



- ❖ 650 Slave Inhabitants (records) in “Central Township”
- ❖ Streets named for Slaveholders
  - Robert **Forsyth** – 9 slaves
  - John H. **Gay** – 8 slaves
  - Martin **Hanley** – 4 slaves
  - Peter **Lindell**
  - John **McKnight** – 6 slaves
  - William **Price** – 2 slaves
  - Virginia **Cabanne** – 3 slaves
  - James **Clemens** – 3 slaves
  - George **Kingsland** – 12 slaves
  - William **Woodson** – 10 slaves

**MIMI : Reference: 1860/1850 Census Slave Schedules**

# What We Learned: St. Louis Area Owners of African Americans



Supplement to Slave Inhabitants in St. Louis, Missouri, in the County of St. Louis, State of Missouri, enumerated by me, on the 5th day of September, 1860. James B. Esch and wife.

NAME	AGE	SEX	COLORED	OWNED BY	REMARKS
John Brown	25	M		James B. Esch	
Mary Brown	22	F		James B. Esch	
...	...	...	...	...	...

- ❖ 8,000+ Slave Inhabitants (records) 1860 Census
- ❖ St. Louis County Towns named for Slaveholders
  - Ralph Clayton
  - Page(dale)
  - Jennings
  - O'Fallon
  - Ferguson
  - Sappington

SUSAN

## What We Learned: Tier 3

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- ❖ Possibly Offensive – More research needed
- ❖ Princeton
- ❖ Yale
- ❖ Chamberlain
- ❖ Camden
- ❖ Washington (Citizen's Comment)

**ALICE**



**ANDREW**

## Background Information

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# Where We Looked

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- ❖ Osage Native American books & website
- ❖ Missouri Council for the Humanities
- ❖ Missouri Historical Society
- ❖ Secretary of State digital maps
- ❖ Census – 1845
- ❖ Census 1850 & 1860 Schedule 1 Free Inhabitants
- ❖ Census 1850 & 1860 Schedule 2 Slave Inhabitants
- ❖ Autobiographies, Universities (Amherst), Current Publications
- ❖ News articles
- ❖ Radio broadcasts

## Who Spoke to Us

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- ❖ Osage Native Historians, Jim & Carol Duncan
- ❖ Bob Cohn, Jewish American Historian
- ❖ Zaki Baruti, African American Historian
- ❖ Dread Scott, Activist, 1811 Slave Revolt Reenactment
- ❖ Citizen Comments
- ❖ Zoom Call with Green Party invitees – students, residents

# University City Street and Park Renaming Task Force

October 5, 2020 - February 1, 2021

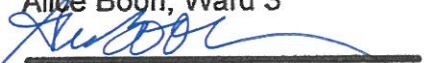
## Task Force Member Final Report

Submitted March 3, 2021

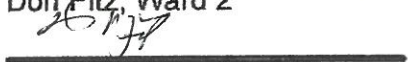
Susan Armstrong, Chair, Ward 1



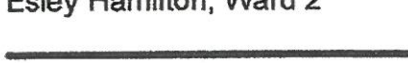
Alice Boon, Ward 3



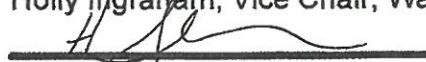
Don Fitz, Ward 2



Esley Hamilton, Ward 2



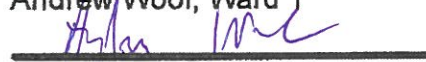
Holly Ingraham, Vice Chair, Ward 1



Mimi Taylor-Hendrix, Ward 3



Andrew Wool, Ward 1



Task Force members read and reflected upon the following statement before each meeting:

*"As we gather together today, we acknowledge that this land is the traditional territory of the Osage Nation, and the Illinois Confederacy, which includes the Cahokia, Peoria, and Illini peoples. We therefore pay our respect to elders both past and present. May we nurture our relationship with our Native neighbors, and the shared responsibilities to their homelands where we all reside today. Specifically, we commit to learning more about the people, history, and contemporary concerns of these indigenous communities."*

— Indigenous Land Acknowledgement for University United Methodist Church

Indigenous peoples have inhabited Missouri since time immemorial. Today, there are over 80,000 Native Americans living in the state.

# **Table of Contents**

## **Executive Summary**

## **Part I. Task Force Mandate and Process**

## **Part II. Street Names Identified as Offensive**

## **Part III. New Street Names Suggested and Considerations for Implementation**

## **Part IV. Future Actions Recommended**

## **Part V. Appendices**

Appendix 1: Task Force members

Appendix 2: Citizen Comments

Appendix 3: Sources Used

- A: Resources on History of Street Names
- B: Resources for Determining Slave Owners
- C: Documents Referencing Indigenous Peoples
- D: Historical Experts Consulted
- E: Books Used for Task Force Research
- F: Street Renaming Resources to Consider

Appendix 4: Task Force Resolution and Notes

## Executive Summary

The residents and leaders of University City take great pride in our rich tradition of diversity, acceptance and inclusion. Our community has a reputation for being a welcoming city and institutionalizing this through the adoption of policies and practices that promote inclusion within local government and the broader community. The Street and Park Renaming Task Force (Task Force) was created to continue the work to bring about equity, inclusion and healing to University City residents, past and present.

Members of the Task Force researched the names of streets using local experts, residents, books, and online resources. The streets named for specific persons were held up to the criteria established in the resolution creating the Task Force. Did they: practice inclusion and equity, welcome all, and condemn white supremacy? If the person did not meet the criteria the street name was considered offensive.

Street names and park names that met the criteria for being offensive were put into three tiers. Tier 1: Names Offensive By Task Force Resolution, Tier 2: Names of Slave Owners, Tier 3: Possibly Offensive - Further Research Needed. The Task Force identified four (4) street names in Tier 1, 10 street names in Tier 2, and four (4) street names in Tier 3. Note that the Task Force was not able to find information on all streets within University City.

The Task Force recommends the City Council begin with Tier 1 street names to consider renaming and as time and resources permit, continuing with Tiers 2 and 3. The Task Force also encourages the City Council to continue the research on names, as well as look for ways to increase the awareness of the history of names used in University City. The members of the Task Force appreciate the opportunity to serve their community.

## Part I. Task Force Mandate and Process

In September 2020, the City Council of University City resolved to establish a Street and Park Renaming Task Force consisting of seven members, appointed by the City Council and representing all three wards. The list of members and their brief biographies can be found in Appendix 1 to this report. The goal was to determine if any University City street or park name was offensive, referencing the foundational statements within Resolution 2020-12 establishing the Task Force, and recommend replacement names. Those foundational statements are:

**WHEREAS**, the City of University City, Missouri (the "City") has recognized "that inclusion and equity are essential components of democracy and are ultimately beneficial to all, encourage better community interaction, cooperation, tolerance and understanding" and has reaffirmed "its support for diversity and affirmative action programs" (Resolution 2009-22); and

**WHEREAS**, the City has "a rich tradition of diversity, acceptance, and tolerance" and "welcomes all regardless of race, religion, creed, color, ancestry, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, familial status, income or education level" (Resolution 2016-26); and

**WHEREAS**, the City has declared "its loyalty to being a welcoming city" and "will find ways to institutionalize welcoming efforts through adoption of policies and practices that promote inclusion within local government and the broader community" (Resolution 2017-5); and

**WHEREAS**, the City has condemned "the message of white nationalism, while encouraging on-going, respectful and honest conversations among people of the City of University City on issues that could divide our community now and, in the future," (Resolution 2017-16); and

**WHEREAS**, the City prohibits discrimination in places of public accommodation, including all places "offering or holding out to the general public, goods, services, privileges, facilities, advantages or accommodations for the peace, comfort, health, welfare and safety of the general public" and "any (public) facility supported in whole or part by public funds" (Municipal Code Section 223.020).

Another purpose of this exercise was to educate residents about the past behaviors of street honorees in light of the diversity University City wants to model, and to educate University City residents about the unacknowledged contributions made by other peoples.

The task force divided the work by ward with members reviewing and researching the names of streets within their own ward. The task force was to be in existence for 120 days with meetings held every other Monday from October 5, 2020 through January 31, 2021. At each meeting citizen comments (compiled and attached as Appendix 2) and work completed were reviewed, discussed and subsequent tasks assigned. Major streets were reviewed first, using local experts, books, and online resources, to discover the history behind the name of the street and then view the name in light of the five criteria above. Those resources are included in Appendix 3 of this report. The task force was not able to find information on all streets within University City. Some of the street names appear to be variations of British locales,

some for unknown persons and even some that could be made-up names. Some of the streets were named for the owner of the land through which the street runs - some of whom are listed, on-record, as slave owners. The task force kept in mind that some streets might run through more than our municipality and that cooperation with adjacent municipalities would be necessary before any action could be taken.

The task force hopes that this document and listed resources can be used by other communities that are interested in similar research. We hope it is helpful.

Some streets were found to be named in honor of a specific person, and, as such, came under closer scrutiny for this task force. Four street names were found to warrant this closer review – Amherst, Jackson, Pershing and Wilson – and the results of our research and deliberations are presented to you today.

## **Part II. Street Names Identified as Offensive**

Street names and their associated Park names that were researched and identified as offensive, based upon criteria outlined, were put into three tiers. Tier 1: Names Offensive By Task Force Resolution, Tier 2: Names of Slave Owners, Tier 3: Possibly Offensive - Further Research Needed. The Task Force recommends addressing the tiers in order for consideration of renaming streets.

The Task Force identified four (4) streets in Tier 1 with offensive names by Task Force resolution, 10 streets in Tier 2 that were considered offensive because they were named after slave owners, and four (4) streets in Tier 3 that may be offensive but more research is needed. As of this time only one park name was identified that is problematic, and that is Kingsland Park, which is listed in Tier 2. Note that two public school names are connected with street names that were found offensive and listed in Tier 1.

### **Tier 1: Street Names Offensive by Task Force Resolution**

#### **A. Pershing Avenue (Ward 1)**

Pershing Street was determined to be named after General Pershing (1860-1948) who was born in Laclede, MO and served in the Western Front in WW I (1917-1918). General Pershing supported Black troops as "separate but equal" and who were not allowed to participate with American Expeditionary Forces during WWI. General Pershing fought in the Apache Wars (1849-1886) and Sioux Wars (1854-1890). Pershing taught African American school children in 1878 and commanded Buffalo Soldiers in Indian Campaigns.

Other uses of Pershing's name in University City: Pershing Elementary School.

Note - Pershing Avenue is a shared street with St Louis City.

#### **B. Amherst (Ward 2)**

Grandfather of Biological warfare with smallpox blankets for Native Americans. Follow-up with Amherst College.

#### **C. Jackson (Ward 1, 2 and 3)**

Jackson street was determined to be named after "Stonewall" Jackson (1824-1863), a Confederate General from 1861-1863.

Other uses of Jackson's name in University City: Jackson Park Elementary School

#### **D. Wilson (Ward 2)**

Wilson street was determined to be named after President Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924), who served as President from 1913-1921. President Wilson is considered to be racist because among other things he rolled back hard-fought economic progress for Black Americans, overseeing the segregation of multiple agencies of the federal government.

### Tier 2: Streets Named after Slave Owner

#### **A. Forsyth (Ward 1)**

Forsyth street was determined to be named after Robert Forsyth (yr -yr). In the 1878 map of St. Louis County, and 1860 Schedule 2 Census, Robert Forsyth is listed as a slave holder of at least nine (9) slaves.

Forsyth Avenue is shared with the City of Clayton.

#### **B. Gay (Ward 1)**

Gay avenue was determined to be named after John H. Gay (1787-1878) and his son Edward (1816-1889). John Gay owned eight (8) slaves as listed in the 1860 Census Schedule 2.

#### **C. Hanley (Ward 1, 2 and 3)**

Hanley was determined to be named after Martin Hanley (1815-?). The 1860 Census documents four (4) slaves owned by Martin Hanley. The 1850 Census Sch 1 shows a Bernard Hanley 50 years old who also owned slaves.

#### **D. Lindell Blvd (Ward 1)**

Lindell Blvd was determined to be named after the developer Peter Lindell (1776-1861). Records show that Peter Lindell owned slaves.

Lindell Blvd is shared with St Louis City.

#### **E. McKnight (Ward 1)**

McKnight Road was determined to be named after John McKnight (? - 1875). Home 8956 Moydalgan Rd, Ladue. Owned 3 slaves in the 1860 Census. William McKnight (1817- ?) owned 6 slaves in the 1860 Census.

**F. Price Road (Ward 1 and 2)**

Price Road was determined to be named after William Price. William Price owned 2 slaves.

**G. Cabanne (Ward 2)**

Cabanne street was determined to be named after Jean Pierre Cabannee (1773-1841). Jean Pierre Cabannee was the husband of Julie Gratiot. Virginia Cabanne owned 3 slaves in 1860.

**H. Clemens (Ward 2)**

Clemens street was determined to be named after James Clemens, Jr. (1791-1878), uncle of Mark Twain. James Clemens, Jr was a slave owner (3) - 1860 Census Sch 2.

**I. Kingsland (Ward 1, 2 and 3)**

Kingsland street was determined to be named after George Kingsland. 1848 Owned 3 slaves; 1860 owned 12 slaves.

Other uses of the name in University City: Kingsland Park. Note that Kingsland crosses over into the City of Pagedale.

**J. Woodson (Ward 3)**

Woodson street was determined to be named after William C. Woodson (1813-?). 1860 Schedule 2 Census owned 10 slaves.

Tier 3: Possibly Offensive Street Names (further research needed)

**A. Princeton (Ward 2)**

Princeton was determined to be named after Princeton University. Citizen comment: Princeton recently admitted to racist policies.

**B. Yale (Ward 2)**

Yale street was determined to be named after Yale University. Yale University founded 1701 by Elihu Yale, Slaveholder. Elihu Yale (5 April 1649 – 8 July 1721) was a British-American merchant and a slave trader, President of the East India Company settlement in Fort St. George, at Madras, and a benefactor of the Yale College in his honor.

**C. Chamberlain (Ward 2 and 3)**

Chamberlain street - were unable to determine who it was named after. Citizen comment recalled a story growing up and being told the street was named after a slave owner.

#### **D. Camden Court (Ward 3)**

Camden Court was thought to be named after St Louis City's 9th Mayor, Peter G. Camden (1809-?). Peter G. Camden owned 6 slaves in 1860 Sch 2 Census. More research needed.

## **Part III. New Street Names Suggested and Considerations for Implementation**

### **Explanation of principles that could be used in selecting new names.**

The mandate from the City Council to the Task Force in Resolution 2020-12 indicates that it should supply a “detailed explanation” of new names that should be considered and that it should “establish criteria” for selecting replacement names. Of course, replacement names should be consistent with the foundational statements found in Part 1 of this report. Both discussions during Task Force meetings and public comments provided a variety of principles, general concepts or guidelines for new names. They include the following suggestions:

- A. New street and park names should be names of University City residents.
- B. Streets and parks should be named after universities or colleges.
- C. Streets and parks should be named after Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
- D. New names should establish equity by using names of slave revolt leaders since an enormous number of streets are named after US Revolutionary War heroes who rebelled against unjust taxes while there is a taboo against naming streets after black heroes who led revolts against the injustices of slavery.
- E. New names should establish equity by using names of police victims since streets can be named after police killed by civilians but a taboo exists against using names of black civilians killed by police.
- F. New names should be names of persons who have been dead for at least 50 years.
- G. New names should be the names of cities or states.
- H. New names should reference our existence on Native American land, specifically, Osage land.
- I. Instead of renaming, streets could be rededicated or by adding secondary signs to a current street sign.

## Part IV. Future Actions Recommended

### Future Actions Recommended.

The mandate from the City Council to the Task Force in Resolution 2020-12 indicated that it should specify offensive street or park names in University City. The Task Force also provides the following recommendations to the City Council for additional future actions consistent with renaming streets and parks:

- A. Hold a well-publicized Zoom webinar which provides all University City residents (especially those living on streets that could be affected and high school students) an opportunity to verbalize their views on renaming streets and parks.
- B. Reconvene the Task Force to continue research on streets named after slaveholders and other street names found to be offensive.
- C. Establish educational programs explaining the history of University City racism in the context of national and global racism (perhaps in conjunction with episodes of *American Experience* and other productions).
- D. Make this report available to the University City School District and other educational institutions within University City in order to increase student and staff awareness of the destructive effects of racism.
- E. Upon receiving this report make it available to the press to increase awareness via television, radio, print publications, online publications and social media of steps taken by University City which can serve as a model for others.
- F. Send copies of this report to libraries and municipalities in order to assist them in taking similar actions.
- G. Encourage artistic/cultural groups to organize a festival such as the reenactment of the 1811 slave rebellion in Louisiana led by Charles Deslondes which was honored by PBS NewsHour on November 24, 2019.

## **Part V. Appendices**

Appendix 1: Task Force members

Appendix 2: Citizen Comments

Appendix 3: Sources Used

- A: Resources on History of Street Names
- B: Resources for Determining Slave Owners
- C: Documents Referencing Indigenous Peoples
- D: Historical Experts Consulted
- E: Books Used for Task Force Research
- F: Street Renaming Resources to Consider

Appendix 4: Task Force Resolution and Notes

## APPENDIX 1: Task Force Members

**Susan Armstrong**, Chair, resides over 30 years in University City, which was a haven for her 3 children.

Susan Armstrong PE, CSP works nationally and internationally in health, safety & environmental engineering. “Preventing calamity” as coined by a friend. Susan manages projects which protect workers and the environment. Her work has taken her to countries including Honduras, Mexico, Canada, and France. She works with employee populations over 10,000; and in multiple locations.

Her concern for community health is expressed in her spring water business. Susan believes a foundation of good health is hydration; and the best source is local fresh spring water in glass bottles. Her business is, by design, sustainable, safe, and local. Susan’s Natural Spring Waters delivers “to your porch”.

Susan is grateful to the Renaming Task Force for their expertise, timeliness, and difficult conversations.

During the study, Susan found her Missouri-born maternal grandmother's story - legacy of Free Blacks surviving the Black Codes in the Midwest...and her maternal grandfather, a celebrated WWI black troop. Family oral histories were never thoroughly shared due to pain and shame of the storytellers. But by understanding the 1800-1900’s, and the legislation which moved free people away from their lands; and denied black troops full benefits – Susan has greater understanding and pride in the journey and skill of her ancestors. Susan was born & educated in Iowa.

She hopes, with dialogue, that toxic generational imbalances will be resolved; and inclusive conversations continue for a collective vision of our future.

Susan Armstrong

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**Alice Boon.** Being a member of the Task Force on Street and Park Renaming has been a very good experience. Alice supports the recommendation that identified four streets for renaming.

Alice believes that a street's name has not been a consideration in terms of the historical significance. Her consideration of a street is how it comprises a neighborhood - from a safety perspective, neighbors who are people you can trust, cleanliness, and property values that are maintained/enhanced. In her opinion University City is a diverse reasonably safe community, well situated for transportation purposes, with nearby retail shopping. It's been easy living here since 1988. Therefore, the dive into researching the historical significance of a street name has been enlightening.

Working with the task force members has been pleasurable. There's a myriad of backgrounds - her employment history has been in the non-profit Human Resources field for 42 years. The intellect of the members, the passion, along with the focus on doing the right thing made this Task Force a rewarding experience.

Alice Boon

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**Don Fitz** has been a resident of University City for 35 years and became deeply involved in the City during 2015 and 2016 when coordinating efforts to successfully pass the Proposition H initiative which preserves historic locations. Upon hearing of the City Council's decision to create the Task Force, he volunteered because its goals so closely match his passion for addressing racial oppression.

In 2020, protests against the killing of Black citizens brought to a head the need for all Americans to openly face the racist heritage of 400 years. The story of slave trader Thomas Newton reflects that the path out of racism is often a sudden reawakening rather than gradual change. Small piecemeal efforts are typically a way to avoid what makes people feel uncomfortable. In fact, the more uncomfortable people feel, the more motivated there are to confront an issue at hand.

There are two serious types of racial inequity that are easy to ignore: First, while many US streets are named after white Americans who rebelled against high taxes, there is a virtual absence of streets named after Black people who rebelled against slavery. Second, while some US streets are named after police officers killed by civilians, there is an absence of streets named after civilians killed by police officers. Don hopes that the City Council addresses these imbalances when renaming streets.

Don Fitz

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**Esley Hamilton**, a resident of University City, is a retired Preservation Historian of the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation, Historic Preservation Division. He is especially noted throughout our area for his studies of the individual subdivision histories and for his delightful presentations of those pictorial histories during various Historical Society meetings over the past years. His subdivision studies have been the bases of the Historical Society's booklets on Ames Place, The Cemeteries of University, The Linden-Kingsbury Historic District, Maryland Terrace, The University City Civic Place and University Hills. Judy Little, of the Historical Society, has worked with him to produce these booklets, which are available at the University City Public Library.

Esley Hamilton

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**Mimi Taylor-Hendrix** arrived in University City in 1983 from San Francisco, California. Most of her work years were spent in outside sales with the last 12 in training and managing sales and service teams. She and Michael reared four children here - all graduates of University City High School. During their school years she was active in the PTO's - servicing as president at both Nathaniel Hawthorne and UCHS. She, also, served on Superintendent Beckwith's task force researching why U City families were leaving the public-school system. Currently, there are two community organizations to which she donates her time and talent - the Social Justice Committee of Christ the King Church and SHED, Inc. - Safe Homes for the Elderly and Disabled - both of which seek to assist and represent those in need.

Mimi hopes that the work of this task force will bring about changes that will enlighten University City residents about the history behind some of our street names and awaken in us all the need to focus on addressing injustice wherever it is found.

Mimi Taylor-Hendrix

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**Holly Ingraham**, Vice Chair, is the Executive Director of **Cultural Leadership**, a St. Louis-based youth education and leadership development organization. Founded in 2004, Cultural Leadership trains teens to be the next generation of civil rights leaders. Programming is grounded in the perspectives of the African American and Jewish experiences. The School District of University City has hosted Camp Cultural Leadership, as well as the High School Leadership program's annual School Swap experience, where Cultural Leadership students explore first-hand the inequities in our education systems.

Holly brings a strong background in understanding issues related to racism and anti-Semitism, as well as facilitating inclusion and incorporating diverse perspectives. Through her work with Cultural Leadership she is knowledgeable about St. Louis Black and Jewish history, and the historic alliance between the two communities in working for social justice.

She is a three-time University City resident renting on Tulane Avenue in Ward 2 twice and now owning a home on Teasdale Avenue in Ward 1. Her two grown sons, who identify as bi-racial, live in St. Ann, MO and Southern California. Most days Holly can be seen walking her dogs, Dali and Mabel throughout the beautiful neighborhoods and parks of University City, and in warmer weather playing tennis at the Heman Park courts with her partner Christy.

Holly Ingraham

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**Andrew Wool** moved into U. City in 1969 at the age of one. He matriculated through the public school system K- 12 graduating U. City High School Class of '87. After leaving University City Andrew has been an educator teaching in schools K-12 in Montana, Boston, NYC, Oakland, and St. Louis.

In addition to teaching Andrew has been a Water Polo Coach at Washington University, MIT, Chaminade and CBC. He is currently the Head Coach at Eureka high school. Having won the 2003 NCAA Div. III National Championship at MIT, he was also previously named the Collegiate Water Polo Association's Division "Coach of the Year" at Washington University.

Andrew also was the Executive TV Producer for the broadcast of the 2014 and 2015 Missouri State Water Polo Championship games. He was elected to the Missouri Water Polo Board of Directors 2014.

Andrew comes from a long familial line of U. City activists and public servants, including his Uncle Marvin Levy, School Board President, long time City Council Member and founder of the annual Wash U. Public Sculpture Series. As well, his Father (Jerry) served on the Board of Health and Mother (Sandy) has served in various fundraising and volunteer roles concerning U. City projects and History.

A performance artist and filmmaker, Andrew is now pursuing a documentary film project concerning the 100+ year history of "The Spotlight" that sits atop City Hall.

Andrew Wool

## **Appendix 2: Citizen Comments**

## APPENDIX 2

### City of University City Citizens Comments – Task Force on Street and Park Renaming



Task Force Members,

I have some comments to make regarding your study to change offensive street names in our city.

If you want to rid our city of names honoring those who supported slavery, of course Washington must head that list.

Every University named street—Princeton, Harvard, etc— should be examined. If its founders did not oppose slavery, or if in its history its leaders were in any way racist, those names should also be changed. I would note that Princeton University has recently admitted to having racist policies right now, not 100-200 years ago.

If your purpose is to insure that no one can be offended by a name, all streets should be renamed.

East/West streets could be designated by letter, followed by Boulevard—, i. e., A Blvd, instead of Delmar, for instance.

North/South streets could be designated by number, followed by Street, i.e. 1st Street, instead of Kingsland.

I must point out that early this summer, many were intent on taking down the statue of St. Louis at the Art Museum for his racist views, and there were even suggestions of renaming the city itself. And in the fall, we proudly named our new soccer team St. Louis City, the name accepted with great enthusiasm. Complete 180 degree turn around of opinion in a few months.

I respectfully propose that you table this discussion for one year.

Thank you for your attention. Eleanor Mullin



It was great to hear the task force at work the other night. I appreciate the thoughtful response and learned a lot. Thank you for your service to U City. My understanding from the previous meeting is that the only streets they have found an issue with thus far are Amherst, Jackson, Pershing, and Wilson. Is all of that correct? It would be great if the committee would end each meeting by reading the full list of streets the task force is currently planning on recommending action on in case citizens aren't able to make some meetings.

First of all, I 100% agree with the committee that the actions of Lord Amherst and President Wilson were absolutely atrocious, and having a street named after a Confederate general is also undesirable - to put both lightly. So I want to be clear that any issue I take with changing street names is in no way in favor of celebrating those actions. I love that U City is a welcoming neighborhood and appreciate the proactive name discussion as another way of proving that.

A clarification on Pershing: Are we sure that he supported the "separate but equal" doctrine? I saw that he commanded a contingent but I interpreted that as being unable to say anything but "Yes, sir" to your very first military assignment out of officer school and not so much as support of it. I didn't see that he'd said anything derogatory about the troops he was commanding or anything of that nature. Similar with his participation in the Apache and Sioux wars - are we sure he was supportive or was he just following orders? I know that can get to be a sticky grey area, but he also was a key figure in WWI, so perhaps that cuts the street name a bit of slack?

I just hope the committee and the City Council will be considering the massive cost and hassle of changing the name of residential streets not just for the city, but for the residents. Our entire online, banking and legal identification existence is tied to this address, and should that address change it will cause a number of headaches to change every account we have, notify anyone who might want to send mail, change every card, every membership. Furthermore, my understanding is that University City is struggling financially and that the time of our city employees and the city's resources are stretched already. I have to wonder if we'd be better served spending the street-renaming cost on additional help for struggling businesses and residents?

To that end, I was wondering if your task force was considering if instead of incurring the large cost and hassle to the city and the residents of changing the street name completely if it would be sufficient to pass a city resolution (I'm not sure of the correct item) that denounces all uninclusive, racist and sexist actions of the individuals the street was originally named for and changes the meaning of the street while keeping the same name.

Two suggestions for Wilson:

- **Wilson Pickett** - major figure in the development of American soul music and co-wrote Mustang Sally among many other songs
- **Wilson Rawls** - wrote Where The Red Fern Grows

Neither is the most exciting option, yes, but at least they aren't offensive.

For Jackson there would be some slightly more interesting options:

- **Jackson Pollak**
- **Charles Loring Jackson** (April 4, 1847 – October 31, 1935) was the first significant organic chemist in the United States. He brought organic chemistry to the United States from Germany and educated a generation of American organic chemists.
- **David Edward Jackson** (1788 – December 24, 1837) was an American pioneer, trapper, fur trader, and explorer. Born in what is now West Virginia, as a married man he moved with his family to Ste. Genevieve, Missouri. In 1822 he became a clerk for the William Ashley and Andrew Henry fur trade partnership, based in St. Louis, Missouri joining a major expedition to the upper Missouri River.
  - There is a St. Louis connection to him which would be nice. He was the Grandfather of Stonewall Jackson, but I didn't see anything offensive about him.

I suggest the meaning change direction in part because I think there is already a disconnect in meaning between the offensive person and our streets themselves. The lack of connection between our street names here in U City with the people they may be connected to brings up a point from a scholarly paper on Topography by Lisa Radding and John Western in the Geographical Review (<https://www.jstor.org/stable/25741159?seq=1>) that "The toponym takes on new meaning based on the ever-changing community the name comes to represent. The community, as it were, acts back on the name, altering its meaning yet again."

My understanding of U City is that is known locally as a diverse community that welcoming to everyone who wants to live here, and that our streets all already represent that. I'd imagine that's how most of St. Louis sees things already.

Thank you very much!  
Amanda Honigfort



Dear Mr. Tate,

My name is Herdosia Kalambayi Bentum, and I am a candidate for Alderperson in Ward 3 of the City of St. Louis. I would like to join the many supporters of changing the street names in University City. I learned about the renaming effort from a webinar sponsored by the Gateway Green Alliance, Universal African People's Organization and Teens Taking Action in St. Louis.

The current names of Jackson, Amherst, Wilson, and Pershing only serve to reinforce the long history of oppression of African and other colonized people.

I would suggest Malcolm X, Fannie Lou Hamer, and Ella Baker, and Justice as possible replacements for the current names.

I hope my intervention in this matter can help to forward your process in some small way.

I believe the 37% of the U City population that is Black would really appreciate

a progressive approach to this issues that goes beyond the traditional street naming strategies.

Sincerely,

Herdosia Kalambayi Bentum, Candidate for Ward 3 Alderperson



Good evening,

My name is Alara Stewart and I'm a sophomore at University City High School. I've been in support of renaming the streets since Don has reached out to me and fellow students. This issue is extremely important because having some of University City's streets named after racist and corrupt men indicates that University City does not believe in confrontation against racism. It is spiteful to the people of color as they live in a city that has not broken the ignorance of glorifying these cruel men. I am in full support of renaming the streets and thank the task force for bringing this issue to my attention as I was not aware of the history of their names.

Thank you,  
Alara Stewart



My name is Zaki Baruti (Lavoy Reed) and I've lived in University City for over forty-five years and reside at 812 Saxony Court. This correspondence is written to commend the University City council for creating a Task Force to examine the possibilities of renaming some of the streets in our community. Given the racist history of this country and even the past discriminatory housing policies of University City, these renaming streets idea is long overdue!! With the ongoing national racial crisis of white police officers killing unarmed Black people, renaming streets, although symbolic will be viewed as a small step toward racial reconciliation led by a supposedly progressive community. Also, symbolism is important and a classic example is how people rally around the American flag.

Accordingly, I completely support renaming the following streets, Wilson, Jackson, Pershing and Amherst, because each of these streets are named after individuals with histories of racism and inhumane treatment of people of color. Therefore, if the Task Force has the audacity to recommend the name changes, I submit a few alternatives to consider. Those would include Black freedom fighters such as Nat Turner, Gabriel Prosser, Denmark Vesey, Toussaint L'Overture, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Martin Delaney, Marcus Garvey. Of course, there are many others, but to shine a path forward for enlightening people not only in this city, but across this region, state and nation, please choose individuals that exemplified strength, compassion and a love for the equality of all human beings.

Respectfully yours

Zaki Baruti (Lavoy Reed)



Good Morning Errol Tate,

I have recently been made aware of the initiatives to rename streets in University City by the University City Task Force on Street and Park Renaming. I was not able to attend the December 2nd Zoom webinar with the Gateway Green Alliance, but received the summary materials afterward.

I write today to alert you that the leadership Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion (7401 Delmar) has indicated that they would support a name change of Jackson Avenue, where our church is located, provided that the initiative is a component of a broader initiative to end racism. Below is the resolution that the Vestry passed in June 2020, and that we shared with the Mayor and City Council. While our discussion was focused on Jackson Avenue, the sentiment would apply to other streets that Holy Communion did not reside on as well.

*"The Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion would welcome changing the name of Jackson Avenue. We would also welcome joining a conversation about the new name."*

*As our nation is wrestling with questions of systemic racial injustice, we support making the change. As a sacramental community, we believe symbols matter. At the same time, we commit ourselves to doing the deeper work. Changing a road name or taking down a statue is important, but dismantling racism will take a great deal more of our commitment and ongoing work."*

Thank you for your support.

Brian Barnhart

6939 Columbia Ave.

614-282-7065



Dear Mr. Tate,

I am writing about the issue of renaming University City streets and/or parks that I heard about through the Gateway Green Alliance and the Universal African Peoples Organization meeting. I support this renaming process. I live in the city of St. Louis and hope that the city will do the same! Thank you for considering this!

Warmly wishing you Happy and Healthy Holidays, Erin O'Reilly



Dear Mr. Tate,

I, Angelika Mueller, long time resident of U-City's 3rd Ward, live on 6626 Crest Avenue. I hereby request the renaming of ALL streets and parks in University City that carry offensive names. I heard about the task force effort during the December Zoom webinar hosted by Gateway Green Alliance, United African Peoples Organization and (U-City high school) "Teens Taking Action." I fully agree with the suggestion to start with re-naming four of the most egregious examples of our racist and genocidal past:

Jackson Street, named after Stonewall Jackson, a confederate general,

Pershing Street, named after general John Pershing, who in his function committed crimes against humanity,

Wilson Street, named after Woodrow Wilson, arguable the most racist U.S. President,

Amherst Street, named after Jeffrey Amherst, who infamously committed genocide against Native Americans in the French and Indian wars.

I will appreciate hearing about the task force's progress.

Sincerely

Angelika Mueller



Dear Councilman Clay,

I have been mulling the renaming of certain streets in University City. I am, by training, an historian. Therefore, I would like to offer some brief observations, which I hope will be useful.

Should you choose to rename a street, I would give you to consider what I think of as the historian's "Fifty Years Rule". When considering an event, until everyone concerned has been dead for fifty years, it's a current event. There is nothing unusual about striking revelations thirty years into the future, revelations that reshape our interpretation of that event and the participants. Thus would I caution hesitancy about naming a street after anyone involved in recent events.

This, however, raises another problem. Much of the debate about the names of streets is a debate about racist attitudes. However, when we look back a few decades, it is hard to find anyone who thoroughly shares what we view as currently acceptable attitudes toward race.

Consider Richard Henry Pratt (1840 - 1924), the founder of the Carlisle Indian School. This school has often been criticized, in recent times, for its corrosive and, indeed, destructive impact upon Native culture. There is much truth to that criticism. However, Pratt was also part of the movement in progressive education that included folks like John Dewey, Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi, Marie Montessori, Susan Blow, W. T. Harris, and Booker T. Washington. When thinking of Pratt, consider that his is the first recorded use of the term "racism", which in 1902 he used to attack racial segregation. His adaptation of the Common School was in no way different from the education of Italian or Irish immigrants. One of his models was the Tuskegee Institute. He felt that Native Americans were worthy of full inclusion in society, this at a time when one common sentiment was that "The only good Indian is a dead Indian.". Of course, that full inclusion meant the full and complete erasure of authentic Native culture in the students' lives. I don't excuse the destructiveness of this vision. I only caution that Pratt's educational vision was the liberalism of its day.

Thus do I caution hesitancy when naming a street after someone concerning whom we do not yet have, shall we say, a long view. In his own lifetime, and for a long time thereafter, Richard Henry Pratt was viewed as progressive. On his tombstone are the words, "Friend Of The Indian". Today, his work is often viewed as cultural genocide.

One other consideration. As the name of our city indicates, the streets are named after educational institutions. Thus is it possible to argue that Yale Avenue, for example, is

not named after the man but after the university. The argument could be made that the institutional name honors, among other things, such Yale graduates as Sinclair Lewis, John Hersey, Thornton Wilder, Noah Webster, Jonathan Edwards, and Reinhold Niebuhr. You could argue that Yale Avenue honors Edward Bouchet, a Phi Beta Kappa member, who earned his B. A. in 1874, and his Ph. D. in physics 1876, the first African-American to graduate from Yale University. A similar argument can be made for Amherst Avenue.

Concerning Wilson Avenue, named after Woodrow Wilson, I would offer this consideration. Do we judge someone by their worst idea? Woodrow Wilson was a racist. That's true. He also was largely responsible for founding the League Of Nations, the precursor of the United Nations. I don't excuse his racism. I merely point out that virtually all historical figures have, for lack of a better term, a mixed legacy. Put a different way, does a person's best idea outweigh their worst? It's a difficult measure.

In keeping with the traditions of University City, I would also urge you, should you choose to rename these streets, to rename them after other universities and colleges. You might consider a number of fairly neutral names based largely in place – Chicago, Grinnell, Virginia, that sort of name.

I offer observations, but little in the way of wisdom or solution. Nonetheless, I appreciate your time and consideration.

With all of my best to you and yours during this new year, know that I am yours truly and

Sincerely,

*John S. Tieman, Ph. D.*



I live in the City of St. Louis. I feel that if University City reames streets named after racists and violent people, it could have a ripple effect and encourage St. Louis City to do the same.

I heard about this effort during the December 2, 2020 Zoom Webinar hosted by the Gateway Green Alliance, Univeral African Peoples Organization and Teens Taking Action in St Louis.

The streets whose names have been proposed to be changed include Jackson, Pershing, Wilson and Amherst, all of which represent racists, people who have committed genocide against Native peoples on this continent and other crimes against humanity. This is not a question or "erasing history", as some claim, but a question of ***getting the history factually right***. To name a street after someone is to honor them as heroes; The people who these streets were named after were NOT heroes, but criminals of the worst kind.

I have talked to Native people and African-Americans who feel offended and troubled when they see streets named after and statues of individuals who have committed crimes against their

people--though they themselves might not speak out about it. However, I am speaking out. The names of the streets referenced above must be changed.

Sincerely,

Daniel Romano

4253 Castleman Ave.

St. Louis, MO

**New Comments (Not Read Before the task Force)**



Re: Taskforce On Renaming Streets and Parks

I fully support the renaming of some streets in University City. Streets named after slave owners should be replaced with the names of individuals/slaves that actively fought their oppressors and the institution of slavery.

I am proposing the name of Charles Deslondes to be considered as a replacement.

In 1811 Charles Deslondes (a slave) went from plantation to plantation in St. John the Baptist Parish (40 miles North of New Orleans) recruiting participants in the largest slave uprising in the United States. It is fascinating because word of the 1804 slave revolt in Haiti was passed from slaves brought to Louisiana by their French owners fleeing Haiti to the slaves working on the plantations near New Orleans. Some of the reports I read stated that as many as 500 slaves were involved in the uprising. The goal of the uprising was to seize the city of New Orleans by force and to create a new nation free of slavery.

I believe this historic event in New Orleans is relevant to St. Louis. During the days of slavery the connection between New Orleans and St. Louis via the Mississippi was strong and included commerce as well as the slave trade.

If interested here is a great video of the reenactment of the 1811 revolt:

Largest slave revolt in US history lives on in reenactment - PBS (just google this)

Sincerely,

Barbara Chicherio

314-727-8554



Dear Mr. Tate,

I hope you're doing well. As a former University City resident, I am deeply concerned about the glorification of racists, in the form of street and park names. It would be wonderful if University City could be at the forefront of a movement that refuses to honor dishonorable people. University City could leave a legacy free of racist street and park names, for the next generation. I currently live in

Northwoods and I would love to share with Northwoods City Hall, the great strides University City is making to rectify societal injustices. Why not honor slave revolt leaders, such as Toussaint L'Ouverture, Charles Deslondes, the Stono Rebellion and/or Denmark Vesey, since there are many streets that honor white Americans who rebelled against high taxes? I am appealing to the University City Task force, to be on the right side of history.

Sincerely,

Tamala C. Turner

4721 Begg Boulevard

Saint Louis, Missouri 63121



To those it may concern:

I have lived in University City for thirty years. It is absolutely necessary to re-name streets that have celebrated powerful rich white men, some glorifying slaveholders and segregationists. Now is the time to name streets after honorable men and women who represent minorities and classes that have been disenfranchised long before University City was founded. While it is impossible to erase our country's ugly history of racism, University City must re-name streets to celebrate Black men and women who have struggled against the odds for to work for fairness, equitability and peace, and have made achievements towards these goals. Perhaps your committee could have a contest, and ask our high school social studies students to write essays about who they would choose to be names and why. After all, our youth is another disenfranchised group.

Yours in health,

Mimi Signor, RN

10 Westridge Court

University City, MO 63124



Dear Mr. Tate,

I would like to submit that there be a change in the names of certain streets in our neighborhood that would reflect the imbalance that has until now favored white generals and leaders over non-white heroes.

Names such as Pershing, Wilson, Amherst and Jackson honor whites whose actions in service to our country lead to suppression of non-whites and disenfranchisement of their right to vote. Also, some, like Pershing and Amherst, employed means that were none other than a policy of genocide!

If we want to right the wrongs of this nation, and get back on a path to true democracy for all, blacks who rebelled against slavery should be remembered in equal measure to whites who rebelled against unfair taxation, hardly equal in both **sacrifice** and injustice.

So, please consider replacing the names of persons that are offensive in light of today's clearer vision of justice with those of black and brown heroes who truly fought for our democracy as envisioned by the founding fathers.

Thank-you,

Thomas N. Hardy



Dear Mr. Tate:

I am writing this to voice my support for the effort currently under way to change the names of certain streets in the municipality of University City (i.e. Amherst, Jackson, Pershing, Wilson) having in common a sordid connection to some of the worst aspects of America's racist past. Moreover, in consideration of new names for said avenues, I might add the observation that, while many streets all over the nation are named after white Americans who ostensibly rebelled against higher taxes and were themselves often slaveholders (e.g. Washington, Jefferson) there is a virtual absence of streets named after black people (e.g. Toussaint L'Ouverture, Nat Turner) who rebelled against slavery.

Thank you for considering my opinion on this matter.

Randall Holmes

10938 Coral Ridge Dr.  
Saint Louis, MO 63123



Greetings Mr. Tate, my name is Brenda ( Queen Ziah) Reddick I've lived in UCity for about 20 years. I reside at 1317 82nd Blvd 63132. I want to first salute the task force for its forward thinking in this wonderful and progressive initiative to rename four of the streets in University City that were named after white racist to Black hero's like Nat Turner, Denmark Vesey, Emmett Till and Michael Brown and others that have been mentioned by like minded brothers and sisters. Renaming Jackson, Pershing, Wilson and Amherst which were named after white men who were either a slaveholder, a general who commanded segregated troops, a president who was probably the most racist in US history and lastly a genocidal maniac ( read Lord Jeffrey Amherst history) is a change needed in our community. University City can be a leader in all of St. Louis city and county by renaming these streets in the names of men and women who fought against hate and racism. In closing I salute the task force and look forward to the renaming of the four streets mentioned above.



Please change the names of streets that have been named after openly racist. We have many leaders who were on the right side of history to praise by naming streets afterwards. Which side are you on.

Respectfully  
Crystal Washington  
Child Activist and Educator  
And current Ucity resident residing at 1122 George St



While many streets are named after white people that were involved in slavery activities at some point in history; it is time to turn the page on slavery and remove those names. Those street names should be replaced with African Americans that contributed positive energy to our country. As a resident of University City I support efforts the efforts to rename those streets that are identified.

Betsey Mitchell



Statement of Jerome Bauer.

My name is Jerome Bauer and I live at 6036 Pershing Ave 63112 in the City of St. Louis

I have long been interested in the untold stories of slave uprisings.

Many streets are named after white Americans who fought in the revolutionary war against high taxes. Yet, virtually no streets are named after Black people who rebelled against slavery.

Naming streets after these uprisings would be a positive step in ending the racist view that slaves were too lazy to resist their bondage

For new names of streets you could include the Amistad Revolt that you might know from the movie.

Or you could rename a street after the Canton Stampede in Missouri.

I suggest that the best name for a street would be Charles Deslondes, who was the main leader of the 1811 German Coast Uprising that began on January 8, 1811. He led 200 -500 slaves against the plantations along the Mississippi River toward New Orleans. It was the largest slave uprising in American history. The battalion of black slaves, most dressed in military uniforms and marching in formation, shocked white New Orleans. White planters formed militias and hunted them down.

The black contingent knew that only possible outcomes were death or freedom. They were outgunned.

The Louisiana militia killed about 40 slaves in a battle, but many slaves fled into the swamps. At least 100 may have escaped. At least 95 slaves were executed. Deslondes was maimed and tortured beforehand being killed.

Thank you for considering my suggestion.

Jerome Bauer  
6036 Pershing Ave  
St. Louis, MO 63112



I have followed with interest the debate regarding the renaming of streets, buildings, etc. throughout the country, and was pleased to find out that your city was seriously considering taking action. Many streets are named after white Americans, some with dubious pasts. But there seems to be a real deficit of streets named for famous people of color who fought for civil rights, rebelled against slavery, or enriched the lives of our fellow citizens in other ways.

Consider, for example, the Angolan slave Jeremy (Cato), who led a slave rebellion in South Carolina, known as the Stono Rebellion, in 1739. Or, closer to home, the 1849 Canton Stampede, where a slave referred to only as “Miller’s John” stole a trove of firearms and attempted to lead a group of several dozen slaves to freedom in neighboring Illinois, before succumbing to slave patrols in Lewis County, Missouri.

Charles Deslondes, Toussaint L’Ouverture, Hautey, Denmark Vesey – all compelling historical figures worthy of street names as much as Wilson, Amherst, Pershing, and the like. If we are to consider names for streets and building, is it not important that we consider the contributions made by these individuals to all people, and not just the privileged few?

Thank you for your consideration.

Joseph Civettini  
4112 Flora Place  
St. Louis, MO 63110



What matters is what are you commemorating when you put up a street sign named after a racist or a colonizer in a Black community? You're saying these are the values of that community and that can be the furthest from the truth.

Since the killing of Folyd. Systemic racism has been exposed for the world to see. His murder has open the eyes of many to the unjustes brought on Black Men in this country.

Michael Brown was killed by a police officer by the name of Darren Wilson. Would you think it appropriate to name a street in Ferguson

after his Murderer? No

So we're simply asking that you to consider taking signs down that are offensive, in certain communities and replace them with positive persons of color. Such as Martin Luther King Marcus Garvey. Those are names that people in our community can relate to and have a sense of Pride.. So we hope you will consider our requests.

Thank you

Gwendolyn Cogshell

5229 Maple

St louis mo 63113



Mr. Tate--

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on University City's plan to rename streets carrying names of those who exhibited racism historically.

As a former resident of University City, 1983-1986, I recall how wonderful University City was as a residential area. The popular Loop was walking distance; the community has resources of one of the most esteemed universities; and diverse, vibrant residents.

I did participate in the webinar sponsored by the Green Party, and listened to the young people from University City High School speak about renaming streets that were named after racist people. (TTASt.Louis) Teens Taking Action in St. Louis.

.As a former educator in both St Louis Public Schools and Kansas City Public Schools - renaming streets would be a unique project for high school students to undertake. Students could conduct a comprehensive research study of U-City street names and report on how the streets were named. Students then could recommend which names need to be changed based on racist historical roles. Assisting with this could be the Task Force that you have appointed.

Having the discussions and bringing the recommendations to the city council would extend and be a experiential lesson in political citizenship both for the students and for the council. Additionally, U-City would be a vanguard (as it is in other areas) and help to overcome years of discriminatory re-writing of history.

Street names could incorporate events in history such as attempts by slaves to overcome their oppression, as happened during slave rebellions. Rebellions represent resistance, whereas those who advocate slavery represent oppression. Rebellions of whites against hefty taxation are seen as positive-- rebellions of slaves should be seen as positive, as they are attempts to overturn oppression.

If you allow more student involvement and if you extend the assistance of your task force, perhaps University City could be a vanguard city which would point the way forward for other municipalities to bolster inclusiveness for all people. The process of studying street name origins would lead to a balance and recognition of the depths of racism and then begin, through knowledge, to correct and to empower the lives of all residents by embracing diversity and continuing to be the vibrant community that you strive to be.

Kudos to you for having such conscientious high school students who want to go forward with history, truth and the elimination of racism in our country.

I now reside in Kansas City, MO. My name is Christina Mann and my home address is 7814 N Prospect Ave., Kansas City, Mo. 64119. I can be reached at 314-495-8006.

Respectfully,

Cris Mann



While many streets are named after white Americans who rebelled against high taxes, there is a virtual absence of streets named after Black people. Gabriel Prosser was a blacksmith slave on a plantation near Richmond VA who planned to rally 1000 slaves in the summer of 1800 to march for equal rights for all. Weather washed out roads making travel almost impossible and only a small band marched. The plot failed and Gabriel Prosser was hanged.

Perhaps a street with a racist background can be named for Gabriel Prosser.

Mary Ann Gaston

780 Harvard Ave

University City



Mr Tate:

I am writing in support of the University City Street and Park Renaming Task Force. I wish to offer further discussion in the decision making to rename our streets and parks. I am aware of four U. City streets bearing the names of individuals whose lives portrayed racist, inequitable, super isn't and separatist histories. It is my understanding that the re-naming of these streets are under strong consideration with likely approval. Everyone involved in this very positive endeavor should be congratulated.

I am extremely grateful and delighted that these long and overdue changes are transpiring. With that being said, I firmly believe that further action to rid our wonderful and inclusive City of names depicting painful and racially divided histories should continue. Though I am not fully aware of all the names of our streets, parks, etc. depicting these such histories, I am aware there are more than four.

The names of the permanent fixtures that our residents look upon daily and throughout their life times should be reflective of pride that welcomes everyone who lives, works, patronizes, and travels through our city. Our names should include contributions made by individuals whose lives mirror the type of city we aspire to be known for. We know that parts of our city do not have this reputation so I see this as just one more method that can be utilized to offer and restore inclusiveness to residents feeling disenfranchised and left out.

If streets in cities throughout our nation can be named after white colonist who rebelled against Britain for what was considered noble causes such as high taxes, military occupation, freedom of religion, etc., how much more should we consider naming streets after leaders of slave revolts and African Americans who rebelled against slavery? I believe this action would contribute significantly in creating a positive image for African Americans in contrast to the erroneous and racially perpetrated belief, historically and currently, that African Americans were too docile, contents, ignorant, or weak to resist slavery. To negate this view, one only has to look as far as the Stono Rebellion of 1739, therefore, my sincerest hope is that one street is renamed Stono Rebellion (see below description):

“From: <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/stono-rebellion-1739/>

**On Sunday, September 9th, 1739 the British colony of South Carolina was shaken by a slave uprising that culminated with the death of sixty people. Led by an Angolan named Jemmy, a band of twenty slaves organized a rebellion on the banks of the Stono River. After breaking into Hutchinson’s store the band, now armed with guns, called for their liberty. After the Stono Rebellion South Carolina authorities moved to reduce provocations for rebellion. Masters, for example, were penalized for imposing excessive work or brutal punishments of slaves and a school was started so that slaves could learn Christian Christian doctrine.**

Thank you for allowing me the time and consideration to share my thoughts. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards,  
Carol Jackson

[7329 Melrose Avenue](#)

U. City, MO 63130

Note:

U. City Resident - 1968 to Present

Retired U. City Employee - 1978 - 2016

Currently Serving as Musick Neighborhood Watch Police Liaison

Currently Serving on the University City Arts & Letters Commission

Currently Service as a Police Chaplain with the U. City Police Department



Hello, I am Coffee Wright,

I am the CEO of the Missing Person Task Force Headquarters. I am a former candidate of Missouri U.S. Senate placing 2nd in the Democratic party of a total of 23 candidates. I am a prominent activist and carry a lot of influence especially in Missouri. I have earned the appreciation and respect of the people contributed to the results of my countless years of volunteer work and contributing to positive change as one of the the voices of the people. I am requesting that you please consider in renaming the streets in Universal City after leaders like

Nat Tucker, Toussaint L'Ouverture, Charles Deslondes, Denmark Vesey and Zaki Baruti .  
Looking forward to talking and meeting with you all soon.

Thank you for understanding it is time for a positive change and the street names of great  
leadership symbolism in Universal City can proudly lead the path.

Coffee Wright (314) 769-6067

519 N. NEWSTEAD AVE, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63108

## Errol Tate

---

**From:** susan@susansnaturalspringwaters.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 15, 2021 1:12 PM  
**To:** Errol Tate; LaRette Reese  
**Subject:** Fwd: University City Street Renaming - Citizen Comment - read aloud pleas, but missing, please add to final report

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: University City Street Renaming

Date: 2021-01-03 08:00

From: "FLOWERS, MICHAELA" <[flowersmic@ucityschools.org](mailto:flowersmic@ucityschools.org)>

To: [susan@susansnaturalspringwaters.com](mailto:susan@susansnaturalspringwaters.com)

Good Morning,

My name is Michaela Flowers, University City resident and student at UCHS. I've been given the opportunity to listen in on Zoom Webinars hosted by the Gateway Green Alliance, Africa Peoples Organization, and Teens Taking Action STL. During the webinars I stood as a student speaker and representative on behalf of TTA STL. In the webinars, I was informed about controversial street names within University City such as Jackson Street, Pershing Street, Wilson Street, and Amherst Street as well as the University City Task Force on Street and Park Renaming.

Jackson Street (commonly misconceived to be named after Andrew Jackson on the \$20 bill) is actually named after a general that worked alongside the infamous Robert E. Lee.

Pershing Street was named after John G. Pershin GA, a general that commanded segregated troops in the Mexican war and Indian wars as well as served in the US war on the Philippines.

Wilson Street was named after Woodrow Wilson, a US president that was known to support the suppression of Black voters, eugenic policies, and oversaw the re-segregation of federal agencies as well as other public efforts during reconstruction. In other words--a president known as the most racist US president.

Amherst Street comes from Lord Jeffery Amherst (think Amherst College). Amherst is often coined as the grandfather of biological warfare due to his part in giving smallpox-infected blankets to Native Americans during the French and Indian Wars in 1763 as a British officer. He described Native Americans as "vermin" that deserved no human rights and Amherst sought genocide upon them.

Surely with the tight-knit communities within University City, no form of ignorance like racist street names would be tolerated. In fact, many politically aware and socially active students at my school as well as involved parents and older residents of U-City were completely in the dark about it. As a representative of my student body at UCHS, I do as much as I can to inform my peers about controversies and opportunities. After reflecting and hearing from other students, I suggested that the

street names should reflect the communities that they are in. Replacing the names of racist historical figures with ones of excellent and positively influential people of color sounds admirable. Still, the University City Task Force is informing and considering replacement measures. The organization knows the way to go about renaming, however the support of public leaders like yourself is greatly needed to spearhead the effort and keep University City away from laughing matter. The change could be amazing to set us apart from other cities in Saint Louis as being among the best to be mature about change and education as well as openly intolerant of racism.

I thank you so much for your time and I look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks,

--

Michaela Flowers

--

## Appendix 3: Sources Used

### A: Resources on History of Street Names

Subject: street names

Date: 2020-11-16 14:06

From: Dennis Northcott <[dpn@mohistory.org](mailto:dpn@mohistory.org)>

Dear Susan,

At the following link, you can view the St. Louis Public Library's "St. Louis Streets Index" (1994): [http://rbsc.spl.org/STL\\_STREETS\\_\(A-Z\).pdf](http://rbsc.spl.org/STL_STREETS_(A-Z).pdf).

Here's the link to the 1860 US census for St. Louis on FamilySearch:

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/image/index?owc=7Q3P8R8%3A1589429312%2C1589430131%3Fcc%3D1473181>

[1]. Here's the broader link to the 1860 US census:

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1473181>.

This 1883 atlas of the city of St. Louis may interest you:

<https://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/mocoplats/id/3231>

[2]. And here's a link to view St. Louis atlases from 1878 and 1893:

<https://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/mocoplats/search/searchterm/Saint%20Louis%20County/field/county/mode/exact/conn/and/order/title/ad/asc/cosuppress/1>

[3]. For example, here's a page from the 1878 atlas showing part of U.City:

<https://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/mocoplats/id/2587/rec/2>

[4]. And here's the same area depicted on the 1893 atlas:

<https://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/mocoplats/id/3123>

[5]. Lastly, some St. Louis fire insurance maps are digitized. For information on viewing these, see

<https://mohistory.org/research/house-history-resources/maps-and-atlases>

[6].

Sincerely,

Dennis Northcott

Associate Archivist for Reference

Tel: 314.746.4517

[dpn@mohistory.org](mailto:dpn@mohistory.org) | [mohistory.org](http://mohistory.org)

Mailing Address:

PO Box 775460

St. Louis, MO 63177

## **Unusual Street Names In and near University City's Second Ward**

### Early Landowners:

Creveling - J. G. Creveling

Forsyth - William Creveling

Gay - John H. Gay (1787-1878) and son Edward J. Gay (1816-1889). Gay Ave. marks the east boundary of Gay tract north of Clayton Rd., but their house, "Gay Villa," was where Lake Forest is now.

Gannon - James J. Gannon

Groby - Charles Henry Groby, Groby's Subdivision

Hanley - Martin Hanley

McKnight - John McKnight (d. 1875), home 8956 Moydalgan Rd., Ladue

Sutter - John Sutter

Warder - Benjamin Warder

Woodson - William C. Woodson

James Clemens Junior's & Eliza Mullanphy Clemens' sons-in-law:

- Cates - John Byron Cates (1829-1877), husband of Catherine Clemens
- Clemens - Dr. James W. Clemens (18229-1873), husband of Helen Clemens
- Von Versen - Maximilian von Versen (1833-1893), husband of Alice Clemens

Gratiot and Chouteau descendants

- Cabanne - Jean Pierre Cabanne (1773-1841), husband of Julie Gratiot Kingsbury Lt. James Wilkinson
- Kingsbury - (1801-1853), husband of Julie Cabanne
- Waterman - Alfred Waterman (1826-1885), husband of Louise Adele Kingsbury

Confederate Hero Jackson (Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson 1824-1863) Name first used in Hanley's Addition to Clayton, 1880

World War I Hero Enright First American killed in WWI (from Pennsylvania)

Real Estate Developers: Balson - William L. Balson (1842-1914) born England, lived at 7302 Shaftesbury

Misspelled English places, presumably to approximate British pronunciation:

- Barkley Square - Berkeley Square in London
- Berick - Berwick, town in Northumberland
- Crixdale - Probably Croxdale, village in County Durham

Other unknown people:

- Ahern
- Briscoe
- Chamberlain
- Lapere, possibly LaPere, property owner west of Woodson Rd.
- Wilner

Presumably, made-up names:

- Anfred Walk
- Blancha
- Shande

*The Task Force thanks the following students at University City High School for their assistance in researching names on the “Unusual Street Names” list: Michael Simmons, Alara Stewart and Lucy Rhoades.*

## Kingsland

# A Brief History of The City of Pagedale and Page Avenue...

The City of Pagedale evolved from rural farmlands located on the outskirts of the City of St. Louis. In the early 1800s, much of this area consisted primarily of large lots under single ownership. These lots were used for apple, peach, and pear orchards, as well as a number of upland and riparian areas utilized for duck and game hunting, which is still exhibited in many of the streets’ names such as Mallard Drive and Ruddy Lane.

The primary landowners in the area were Andrew Robertson Jr. (who controlled almost all of the land between Page Avenue and Saint Charles Rock Road), George Kingsland, and the Watson Family. And while many maps indicate that there was a major street aligning with what is Page Avenue today, there were few public roads in the area and most of these streets were not yet paved, which would make them impassable during spring thaws. Sidewalks were typically constructed with heavy wood planks along the edge of the road, and large rock slabs were used at crossings. Thus, early infrastructure and pedestrian connectivity was limited to a few key streets through the area.

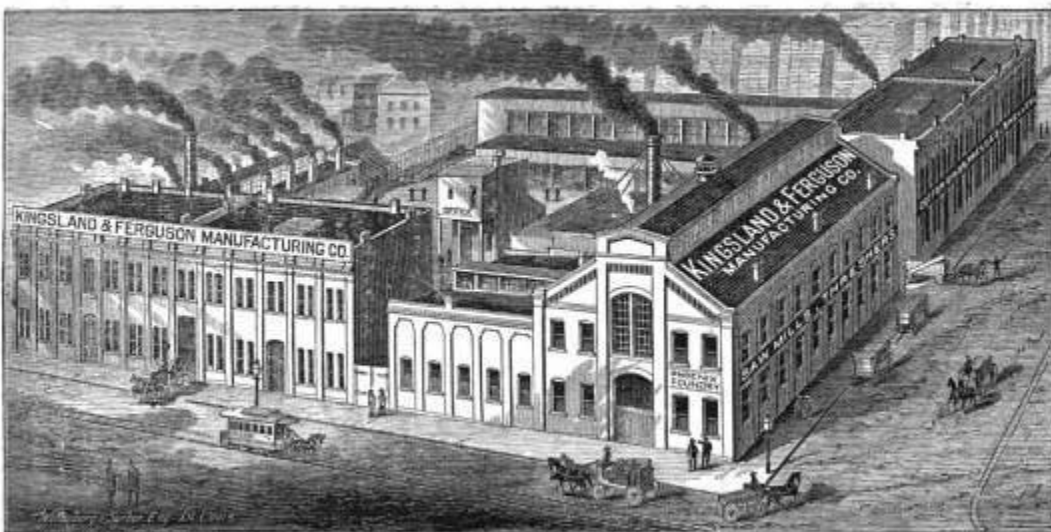
The area was first really subdivided in the mid-1800s, where around that same time, Page Avenue was extended from the City of St. Louis into what is now the City of Pagedale. In the late 1870s, the right-of-way for Page Avenue was clearly identified through George Kingsland’s property headed northwest to North Hanley Road as shown on the 1878 Pitzman Atlas.

By the late 1890s, Page Avenue and much of the street structure to the south was in place as shown on the 1893 Atlas of St. Louis County. However, the areas to the north of Page Avenue were fairly disconnected due to the fact that many of the streets still did not exist (**except for Kingsland Avenue**). Following this in 1903, the Terminal Railroad was constructed through the Chapman Farm just north of Page Avenue, further disconnecting the street from many residents to the north.

# Kingsland & Ferguson Manufacturing Co.

St. Louis, MO, U.S.A.

Manufacturer Class: **Wood Working Machinery & Steam and Gas Engines**



KINGSLAND & FERGUSON MANUFACTURING COMPANY.—See opposite page.

## *Kingsland & Ferguson Mfg. Co., 1887*

This firm was founded in 1835 by George Kingsland, Sr., as a branch of the Pittsburgh foundry of **Kingsland & Lightner**, whose co-founder was Lawrence Kingsland. His son, George Kingsland, was in charge of the St. Louis branch. When Lawrence died in 1844, the St. Louis operation split from its parent, with George taking on a partner, D. K. Ferguson, and the business becoming **Kingsland & Ferguson**. Their foundry was known as the **Phoenix Foundry**. When George Kingsland died in 1874, his son, L. D. Kingsland, replaced him and the business incorporated as the **Kingsland & Ferguson Manufacturing Co.** In 1886 or '87 it became the **Kingsland & Douglas Manufacturing Co.**, which seems to have survived until about 1900.

The company made a broad array of agricultural products. Those of interest to us include portable and stationary steam engines, circular saw mills, edgers, swing saws, and cordwood mills.

## Information Sources

- From an 1882 Tyler, TX city directory, online at rootsweb.com: ad for "G. M. Dilley. F. L. Dilley / DILLEY FOUNDRY & MACHINE WORKS / Engineers, Founders and MACHINISTS, Tyler, Texas... [Agents for] KINGSLAND, FERGUSON & CO'S GINS, PRESSES AND SAW MILLS..."
- An 1885 sawmill-related patent was assigned to this company (under the name Kingsland & Ferguson Manufacturing Co.); the patent was granted to one Darius Parkhurst of St. Louis. We have found other patents to Parkhurst, but they were not assigned, and there is no confirmation that the patents were used by this company.
- At the 1886 Buenos Ayres Exposition, M. Lanus & Co. exhibited machines from Kingsland, Ferguson & Co.
- Kingsland & Douglas Mfg. Co. catalog: Vibrating Threshers, Plain Agricultural and Traction Engines, dated 1887.
- The following extract is from *The industries of Saint Louis*, published 1887 by J. M. Elstner & Co.:

- **Kingsland & Ferguson Manufacturing Company**

(David K. Ferguson, Ferguson School, UCity (at what is now Olive and Pennsylvania Ave.) – probable namesake of Ferguson Ave.)

<https://www.mostateparks.com/sites/mostateparks/files/University%20City%20Education%20Dist.pdf>

Wilson Ave. named for President Woodrow Wilson:

bottom of page labeled Item #8-Page 2 under Planning: “The origin of the University City Education District 1, as the purchase by the School Board in September 1923, of the 26-acre Hezel Tract at what was then the west end of the city. This tract was supplemented the following February by an adjacent strip, and in June the whole was platted as the Wilson School Park. The intention, as suggested by the name, was to establish a site for a new elementary school to be named for President Woodrow Wilson, who had just died, and to serve the newly developing northwest part of the city.”

NORTHSIDE UNIVERSITY CITY Inventory of Historic Buildings 1993, by Esley Hamilton and Chun-Hsi Wong

<http://www.suttermeyer.org/historyofthefarmhouse.html>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew\\_Vassar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew_Vassar)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacob\\_Kingsbury](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacob_Kingsbury)

<https://www.cityofpagedale.com/history>

re: David K. Ferguson:

[https://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/ucityimages/search/searchterm/Ferguson%20School%20\(University%20City%20Mo.\)/field/subject/mode/exact/conn/and](https://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/ucityimages/search/searchterm/Ferguson%20School%20(University%20City%20Mo.)/field/subject/mode/exact/conn/and)

## Vassar, Waterman and Kingsbury

Names.	Free White.				Colored.				Colored.				NEW BUILDINGS			
	MALES.		FEMALES.		SLAVE MALES.		SLAVE FEMALES.		FREE MALES.		FREE FEMALES.					
Bernd Adolphus	3															
Raisin Joseph P	2															
Hinde Leonard R	1															
Legman Charles Y	3															
Holden Edward P	3															
Hannard Lewis	3															
Lion Francis	1															
Johnson William																
Spencer Loring	3															
	19															
Block L. 30																
Ananias Mary	5		1	1												
Spaulding Simon	1	3		2												
Brownfield William	1	1		3	2											
Hoff Anton	1	2	1	2	1	2										
Boyden Julia Ann	10	1	1	1	1	1										
Waterman Henry	1			1												
Wagner Lewis	2	1	1	1												
Campbell Thomas	2	1	1	1	3		2									
Beggs Joseph	3	5		5	2	1										
Jones Paul D	1	6	1	2	3		2									
Kelton Geo. A		6		3												
Ross Henry L		10														
Van Stedford		2														

**1845 Census: Missouri Historical Society / Mohistory.org** (photo above – one page of 216 pages)

### Vassar Ave (I-12)

**Matthew Vassar (1861)** founded Vassar College

Vassar College, one of the first women colleges in the US, in Poughkeepsie, New York. Founded in 1861 by Matthew Vassar, responding to a request by his niece, Lydia Booth.

In 1851 John A. Bolding, a fugitive slave from South Carolina was working as a tailor on Main Street, when he was seized by a U.S. Marshall under the terms of the [Fugitive Slave Act of 1850](#). When members of the [Underground Railroad](#) fell short of the amount necessary to buy Bolding's freedom, Matthew Vassar was among those who made up the difference.

Vassar was a merchant and brewer.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew\\_Vassar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew_Vassar)

### Waterman Ave

**Alfred Waterman (1826-1885)**, husband of Louise Adele Kingsbury

Merchant, Row 14 of 1860 Census below

U.S. Census of 1860  
Household of 14  
U.S. Census of 1860  
Household of 14

Kingsbury Blvd, cont'd

**Lt. James Wilkinson Kingsbury, (1801-1853)**

... graduated from West Point in 1823. Served with distinction during the Black Hawk War and resigned from the army in 1836 to become keeper of U.S. military stores in St. Louis.<sup>[1]</sup>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacob\\_Kingsbury](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacob_Kingsbury)

1860 Census below (Familysearch.com)

[illegible]

## **B: Resources for Determining Slave Owners**

### Sources for Determining Who Owned Slaves - Tracing the Record in Missouri

Submitted by Esley Hamilton

#### THE UNITED STATES CENSUS

Ancestry.com has a digitized version of the federal census that can be searched in a variety of ways. Some people may not appear if they missed being enumerated, and people may not appear as slaveholders if they didn't own any slaves in census years (decade beginning in 1790 and for slaves through 1860). The 1850 and 1860 samples would be a good place to start to identify slave holders. Enslaved people are enumerated as statistics only (for example, 1 male mulatto aged 23). The Ancestry interface should allow you to search for the names you're interested in and to see if they are listed:: <https://www.ancestrylibrary.com/search/collections/7668/>

In 1850 and 1860 the US government collected some additional information called "slave schedules" which can be searched even without an Ancestry.com account or having a relationship with a library for access.

Ancestry is not the only online genealogical website, and several of them may be available through the library. Remember that you are eligible to use both the St. Louis Public Library and the St. Louis County Library reference services as well as the University City Public Library. They may be able to direct you to services that they already subscribe to and ones that you may not know about.

#### PROBATE COURT RECORDS

The Emancipation Proclamation was issued on January 1, 1863, but Missouri was not subject to it because our state was at least nominally not in rebellion. Slavery remained legal here until the state ended it on January 11, 1865. (The practice finally ended everywhere in the states and territories when the 13th Amendment was ratified on December 6, 1865.) Anybody in Missouri who had enough wealth to own slaves and who died before January 11, 1865 should have the slaves listed in an estate inventory, which part of his or her probate records. The probate records for St. Louis County are still held by the City of St. Louis through 1876, but the Secretary of State for Missouri has them online now at <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/JudicialRecords/>

This base includes many types of court proceedings, but you can limit it by county and by type of document "probate."

The Secretary of State's main office is in Jefferson City, but they have an office here in St. Louis, in the former Federal Courthouse at the southeast corner of Market & Tucker, and they would be happy to help you.

In probate records slaves are given names and ages, but often only the first name is used. Many slaves did not adopt surnames until after the Civil War.

## EMANCIPATION RECORDS

If an owner decided to free a slave, the best way to do it was through the Circuit Court. This action was critical to the safety and prosperity of the freed person, because as we know from “Twelve Years a Slave,” the danger of re-enslavement was ever-present. Fortunately for us, two eminent local historians, Dr. Kris Zapalac and Jefferson National Expansion Memorial historian Bob Moore, have compiled a 38-page list of emancipations registered in the St. Louis Circuit Court, 1817-1865. They went page by page through Circuit Court Record Books at the St. Louis Civil Courts Building at Tucker and Market Streets, and the related papers at the Missouri Historical Society. On this list, the location of the original listing in the Circuit Court Record Books is noted by two numbers (example, 24:230). The first number is the Circuit Court book number, the second is the page number in that book. {MOHIS} denotes the use of papers in the slavery collection of the archives of the Missouri Historical Society. Other collections and sources used are noted in the individual cases. Unfortunately, the list is arranged by date rather than name.

## SLAVE SUITS

The St. Louis office of the Secretary of State also has the general County Court records for this era, and they include records of lawsuits known as slave suits or freedom suits, wherein slaves sued for their freedom on the basis of having been held in free states. We tend to know only about Dred Scott’s unusually complicated suit, but others, often successful, These were more frequent than you might think but still not common.

## LISTS OF SOUTHERN SYMPATHIZERS

There is another resource that could indicate Southern sympathy. It is a list of people whose loyalty to the Union was suspect in 1865: <https://mohistory.org/collections/item/Lib82> The bulk of these are foreign born residents, but southern sympathizing was another reason for being on the list. if you saw a church member’s name there, it could indicate taking a closer look. The booklet has the virtue of being digitized and in alphabetical order.

1854 Census: Missouri Historical Society/Mohistory.org

1860 Census (Familysearch.com)

<https://www.heritagequestonline.com/hqoweb/library/do/login/ipbarcode?aid=23447> -requires password

1860 Census of Slaveholders in **Central Township** – see pages 14, 15 and 19:

<https://www.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/census/pages/slave>

Missouri Record of slave emancipations:

<https://www.nps.gov/jeff/learn/historyculture/upload/EMANCIPATIONS.pdf>

NEW TOPIC RE: GEORGE KINGSLAND:

EMANCIPATIONS The following is a list of emancipations registered in the St. Louis Circuit Court, 1817-1865. The list was compiled by Jefferson National Expansion Memorial historian Bob Moore and Dr. Kris Zapalac from a thorough examination of the Circuit Court Record Books at the St. Louis Civil Courts Building at Tucker and Market Streets, and the examination of papers at the Missouri Historical Society. The location of the original listing in the Circuit Court Record Books is noted by two numbers (example, 24:230). The first number is the Circuit Court book number, the second is the page number in that book. {MOHIS} denotes the use of papers in the slavery collection of the archives of the Missouri Historical Society. Other collections and sources used are noted in the individual cases.

On January 11, 1865, the State of Missouri officially ended the practice of slavery and emancipated the remaining persons held in bondage within the boundaries of the state.

May 8, 1848 - Ursilla alias Ussy and children Sarah Josephine (10), Susan Peyton (5), and Henrietta Peyton (3) by **George Kingsland** 18:267

PS. Point of interest found in this listing also:

May 26, 1857 - Dred Scott (48), Harriet Scott (39), Eliza Scott (19), and Lizzy Scott (10), by Taylor Blow 26:263 [See also County Court Book #9, 1858; Dred Scott, age 50, 5'4", porter; Harriet, 40, 5'4", washerwoman; licenses issued to free blacks for \$1,000 on May 4, 1858 by Taylor Blow].

## C: Documents Referencing Indigenous Peoples

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement for University United Methodist Church – **requires password**

<https://brownschool.wustl.edu/News/Pages?Brown-School-Authors-Encourage-Native-Land-Acknowledgement.asp>:

“As we gather together today, we acknowledge that this land is the traditional territory of the Osage Nation, and the Illinois Confederacy, which includes the Cahokia, Peoria, and Illini peoples. We therefore pay our respect to elders both past and present. May we nurture our relationship with our Native neighbors, and the shared responsibilities to their homelands where we all reside today. Specifically, we commit to learning more about the people, history, and contemporary concerns of these indigenous communities.”

What we learn must lead us to action, and we, therefore, read the following statement from the Osage Nation: “The Osage Nation is currently engaged in the protection and preservation of one of our ancestral mounds, Sugarloaf Mound, in south St. Louis. The Nation accepts donations to help support our effort to preserve one of the last remaining mounds in the St. Louis area. We welcome you to visit the Osage Nation headquarters on our reservation in Pawhuska, Oklahoma. The Osage Nation respectfully requests that you honor our land. Thank you.

Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies at Washington University

Gilbert C. Din and Abraham P. Nasatir. *The Imperial Osages: Spanish-Indian Diplomacy in the Mississippi Valley*. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1983)

## **D: Historical Experts Consulted**

Carol Diaz-Granados Duncan, Registered Archeologist, Washington University and Jim Duncan

Esley Hamilton, University City's resident historian

Bob Cohn, Editor-in-Chief Emeritus, STL Jewish Light

Scott Tyler, known professionally as Dread Scott, organizer of a reenactment of the 1811 (largest) slave revolt in the United States.

Zaki Baruti, President-General, Universal African People's Organization

## **E: Books Used for Task Force Research**

John A. Wright, University City, Missouri

C. Edwin Murray and Ilene Kanfer Murray, University City, Missouri: Its People and events, 1906-1931, St. Louis MO published by The Historical Society of University City, 2009

NiNi Harris, Legacy of Lions: A History of University City, University City, MO, published by The Historical Society of University City, 1981.

Gilbert C. Din and Abraham P. Nasatir. The Imperial Osages: Spanish Mississippi Valley. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1983)

Extraordinary Black Missourians, John A. Wright Sr & Sylvia A Wright, 2013

Final Report of General John J. Pershing, Commander-In-Chief American Expeditionary Forces (1920), John Joseph Pershing, 1920

## **F: Street Renaming Resources to Consider**

HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES - should include Missouri HBCUs  
Possible names for University City streets

From the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education  
[Nafeonation.org/members](http://Nafeonation.org/members)

The complete list of member colleges and universities of “NAFEO” covers three columns of fine print. Most of the names are based on the state that funds them or the city, better known for other things, in which they are located. That still leaves many colleges and universities whose towns have become synonymous with them or which are named for benefactors:

Alcorn  
Claflin  
Coppin  
Dillard  
Fisk  
Grambling  
Jarvis  
Langston  
Lincoln  
Meharry  
Spelman (not Spellman)  
Stillman  
Talladega  
Tougaloo  
Tuskegee  
Voorhees  
Wilberforce

### Names already used for St. Louis streets:

Drew	Creve Coeur
Cheney	Webster Groves
Howard	St. Louis and Ballwin
Drake	Webster Groves

### Names that are hyphenated or two words

(Usually frowned on by the U.S. Postal Service)

Bethune-Cookman  
Harris-Stowe (could use Stowe)  
LeMoyne-Owen  
Medgar Evers

## **APPENDIX 4: Task Force Resolution and Notes**

## **RESOLUTION 2020-12**

### **A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A STREET AND PARK RENAMING TASK FORCE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of University City, Missouri (the "City") has recognized "that inclusion and equity are essential components of democracy and are ultimately beneficial to all, encourage better community interaction, cooperation, tolerance and understanding" and has reaffirmed "its support for diversity and affirmative action programs" (Resolution 2009-22); and

**WHEREAS**, the City has "a rich tradition of diversity, acceptance, and tolerance" and "welcomes all regardless of race, religion, creed, color, ancestry, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, familial status, income or education level" (Resolution 2016-26); and

**WHEREAS**, the City has declared "its loyalty to being a welcoming city" and "will find ways to institutionalize welcoming efforts through adoption of policies and practices that promote inclusion within local government and the broader community" (Resolution 2017-5); and

**WHEREAS**, the City has condemned "the message of white nationalism, while encouraging on-going, respectful and honest conversations among people of the City of University City on issues that could divide our community now and in the future" (Resolution 2017-16); and

**WHEREAS**, the City prohibits discrimination in places of public accommodation, including all places "offering or holding out to the general public, goods, services, privileges, facilities, advantages or accommodations for the peace, comfort, health, welfare and safety of the general public" and "any (public) facility supported in whole or part by public funds" (Municipal Code Section 223.020); and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to establish a Street and Park Renaming Task Force to study whether any City street or park names are offensive and should be renamed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF UNIVERSITY CITY, MISSOURI, THAT:**

1. A Street and Park Renaming Task Force ("the Task Force") is hereby established.
2. The Task Force shall consist of seven members who shall be appointed by the City Council. The Mayor and all other members of the City Council may each appoint a Task Force member. Task Force members shall be residents of the City and shall serve without compensation.
3. The Task Force shall study whether any City street or park names are offensive and should be renamed and report its findings to the City Council. If the Task Force finds that any street or park name is offensive, it may recommend a replacement name, accompanied by a detailed explanation. The Task Force may establish criteria for determining whether a name is offensive and selecting any replacement name, consistent with the intent of this Resolution as expressed in the Resolutions and Code provisions cited above. The Task Force may consult experts and others having relevant knowledge and may engage in public outreach.
4. The City Manager may provide staff and other resources to assist the Task Force in carrying out its work.
5. The Task Force may elect officers and adopt such rules for its own guidance and proceedings as may be expedient, not inconsistent with this Resolution and all applicable laws.

6. The Task Force shall comply with all Missouri and City laws on the conduct of public business, including public meetings and records. The City Clerk may assist the Task Force in this regard.
7. The Task Force shall complete its work within 120 days of the adoption of this Resolution unless extended by the City Council.

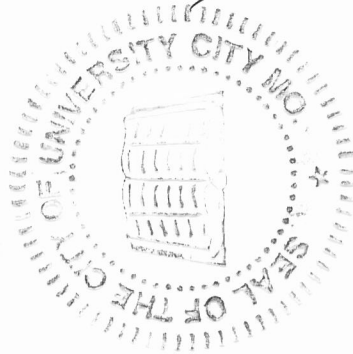
**ADOPTED** this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

Mayor



ATTEST:

  
City Clerk



<b>Tier III</b>	Citizen Comments			<b>Resolution 2020-12</b>							
<b>Tier II</b>	Area Slave holders										
<b>Tier I</b>	Offensive by Resolution stds			<b>2009-22</b>	<b>2016-26</b>	<b>2017-5</b>	<b>2017-16</b>				
<b>Row #</b>	<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Named for</b>	<b>Research Confirmed</b>	<b>2009-22</b>	<b>2016-26</b>	<b>2017-5</b>	<b>2017-16</b>	<b>Assigned to</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Share Street Name with another Municipality</b>	<b>VOTE TO RENAME</b>
<b>FIRST WARD</b>											
	Pershing Avenue	John J. Pershing	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Armstrong	General Pershing (1860-1948) was born in Laclede, MO served in Western Front in WW I (1917-1918). Supported black troops "separate but equal" who were not allowed to participate with American Expeditionary Force during WWI. But served under French command as auxiliary troops to replace fallen troops. Battles/Wars: Apache Wars (1849-1886) & Sioux Wars (1854-). Taught African American school children in 1878; and commanded Buffalo Soldiers in Indian Campaigns.	St. Louis City, Ucity Pershing School; and <b>Pershing Community Center</b>	Yes
	Forsyth	Robert Forsyth	Yes						1878 map of St. Louis County, 1860 Schedule 2 Census, slave holder of at least 9 slaves	Clayton	
	Gay	John H Gay	Yes					Armstrong	John (1787-1878) & son Edward (1816-1889). John Gay owned 8 slave in 1860 Census Sch 2		
	Hanley	Martin Hanley	Yes					Armstrong	1860 Census - 4 slaves listed to Martin Hanley; 1850 Census Sch 1: Bernard Hanley -50 years old	St. Louis County	
	Lindell	Peter Lindell	Yes						Named after developer Peter Lindell (1776-1861) who owned slaves. <a href="http://dynamic.stlouis-mo.gov/history/people/detail.cfm?Master_ID=821">http://dynamic.stlouis-mo.gov/history/people/detail.cfm?Master_ID=821</a>	St. Louis City	
	McKnight	John McKnight	Yes					Armstrong	dead 1875, home 8956 Moydalgan Rd, Ladue. Owned 2 slaves in 1860 Census. William McKnight owned 5 slaves in 1860 Census	Clayton	
	Price Road	William	Yes					Armstrong	owned 2 slaves in 1860 Census		
	Washington								Citizen comment: Washington must "head the list" of person who supported slavery		
<b>SECOND WARD</b>											
	Amherst	Lord Jeffery Amherst	Yes	No	No	No	No	Fitz	Grandfather of Biological warfare with small pox blankets for Native Americans. Follow-up with Amherst College		Yes
	Cabanne	Jean Pierre Cabannee	Yes					Armstrong	1773-1841, husband of Julie Gratiot. Virginia Cabanne owned 3 slaves in 1860	St. Louis City	
	Chamberlain	Chambers						Fitz/Ingrahm	Citizen comment: slaveholder		
	Clemens	James Clemens, Jr	Yes					Hamilton	Slave holder - 3 slaves 1860 Census Sch 2		
	Jackson	Stonewall Jackson	Yes	No	No	No	No	Hamilton	Confederate General	Jackson Park School and Jackson Ave in 3rd Ward	Yes
	Princeton Avenue								Citizen comment: Princeton recently admitted to racist policies		

<b>Tier III</b>	Citizen Comments			<b>Resolution 2020-12</b>							
<b>Tier II</b>	Area Slave holders										
<b>Tier I</b>	Offensive by Resolution stds			<b>2009-22</b>	<b>2016-26</b>	<b>2017-5</b>	<b>2017-16</b>				
<b>Row #</b>	<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Named for</b>	<b>Research Confirmed</b>	<b>2009-22</b>	<b>2016-26</b>	<b>2017-5</b>	<b>2017-16</b>	<b>Assigned to</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Share Street Name with another Municipality</b>	<b>VOTE TO RENAME</b>
	Wilson	President Woodrow Wilson	Yes	No	No	No	No	Fitz	2K feet of street; Wilson was a racist president		Yes
	Yale	Elihu Yale							Yale University founded 1701 by Elihu Yale, Slaveholder / Dr. John Tieman fb		
<b>THIRD WARD</b>											
	Kingsland	George Kingsland	Yes					Hendrix	1848 Owned 3 slaves; 1860 owned 12 slaves	Kingsland Park in Ucity	
	Woodson	William C Woodson	Yes					Armstrong	1860 Schedule 2 Census owned 10 slaves	St. Louis County	

Renames			
Name	Comment	Vetted	Submitted by
Ronald McNair	African American pioneer in space. Name no longer in use at Middle School	Yes	Mimi Taylor-Hendrix
George Washington Carver	Born in SW Missouri, National Park in Diamond, MO at the birthplace of George Washington Carver who saved the South by remediating the soil ruined by growing cotton.		Susan Armstrong
Marie Scypion	Sued for freedom in St. Louis courts in 1806		Heather Wall
Wilson Pickett	Major figure in the development of American soul music and co-wrote Mustang Sally among other songs		Amanda Honigfort
Wilson Rawls	Wrote Where The Red Fern Grows		Amanda Honigfort
August Wilson	Bi-racial playwright, rededication to address ignorance		Hendrix
Mary Wilson	Ucity intended by EG Lewis to be Women's republic. Nice to consider women's name for renaming		Andrew Wool
Jackson Pollak	Same name as Jackson with different honored person		Amanda Honigfort
Charles Loring Jackson	first significant organic chemist in the United States. He brought organic chemistry to the United States from Germany and educated a generation of American organic chemists		Amanda Honigfort
David Edward Jackson	American pioneer, trapper, fur trader, and explorer. Born in what is now West Virginia, as a married man he moved his family to Ste. Genevieve. In 1822 he became a clerk for Ashley and Andrew Henry fur trade partnership, based in St. Louis, joining a major expedition to the upper Missouri River. Grandfather of Stonewall Jackson		Amanda Honigfort
Curt Flood			Edna (Hedy) Harden 12/19/20 Citizen comment
Dred Scott			Edna (Hedy) Harden 12/19/20 Citizen comment

Renames			
Name	Comment	Vetted	Submitted by
Chuck Berry			Edna (Hedy) Harden 12/19/20 Citizen comment
Toussaint L'Ouverture	Leader of Slave revolts		Don Fitz
Gabriel Prosser	Leader of Slave revolts, a blacksmith slave on a plantation near Richmond, VAA who planned to rally 1000 slaves in the summer of 1800 to march for equal rights for all. The plt failed due to washed out roads, by weather makin it impossible to march, Plot failed prosser hanged.		Don Fitz / Mary Ann Gston
Denmark Vesey	Leader of Slave revolts		Don Fitz /Coffee Wright
Lincoln University	replacing Amherst with another college name and for the college to be a Historically Black College. Our two Missouri HBCU's		Holly Ingraham
Harris-Stowe University	replacing Amherst with another college name and for the college to be a Historically Black College. Our two Missouri HBCU's		Holly Ingraham
Lloyd Gaines	received his law degree as he was denied entrance as a Black student to the University of Missouri.		Holly Ingraham
Stowe	Harris was the segregated white teacher college and Stowe was the Black teacher college until they merged in 1979), named for Harriet Beecher Stowe (a white woman abolitionist from Connecticut) and also where Lloyd Gaines attended undergraduate school.		Holly Ingraham
Tuskegee	New Orleans (founded for African-American and Native American students		Mimi Taylor-Hendrix
Xavier	the founder Booker T. Washington, and the airmen		Mimi Taylor-Hendrix
Osage Trail/Way/Path	Honor previous occupants		Mimi Taylor-Hendrix
Nat Turner	Black freedom fighter		Zaki Baruti / Coffee Wright
Harriet Tubman	Black freedom fighter		Zaki Baruti
Sojourner Truth	Black freedom fighter		Zaki Baruti

Renames			
Name	Comment	Vetted	Submitted by
Martin Delaney	Black freedom fighter		Zaki Baruti
Marcus Garvey	Black freedom fighter		Zaki Baruti
Augusta Gottlieb	Beloved English and writing teacher		Bob Cohn
Genora Jones	First African American student, Class of 1957, to attend University City High School		Bob Cohn
Paul Schoomer	longtime owner of Paul's Books, member of City Council		Bob Cohn
Dr. Walter Ehrlich	Taught History & Economics at University City HS. Author of Zoom in the Vally, the History of the Jewish Community of St. Louis		Bob Cohn
Larry Lieberman	Civil rights advocate and U City Council leader		Bob Cohn
Nathan B. Kaufman	Longtime Mayor of U City		Bob Cohn
Wallace Klein	English & German teacher liaison to Class Reunions, mentor to many. 1939 graduate.		Bob Cohn
Carl Dennis	Pulitzer Prize poet		Bob Cohn
Howard Schwartz	Poet, author and Jewish folklorist.		Bob Cohn
Osage	Osage Avenue, Osage Street, Osage Boulevard, etc		Carol & Jim Duncan
Osage	Osage Way, Osage View, Osage Land, Osage Hills and Osage Prairie.		Carol & Jim Duncan / Esley Hamilton
Pawhuska	One or more of the Osage chiefs was named Pawhuska		Carol & Jim Duncan
James Bigheart	Prominent Osage leader		Carol & Jim Duncan
Wakon Iron	Prominent Osage leader		Carol & Jim Duncan
Soldier Oak	Prominent Osage leader		Carol & Jim Duncan
Strike Ax	Prominent Osage leader		Carol & Jim Duncan

Renames			
Name	Comment	Vetted	Submitted by
East/West Streets designated by Letter, follwed by Blvd. North/South street designaated by number, followed by Street, i.e. First Street instead of Kingsland			Eleanor Mullin
Malcom X			Herdosi Kalambayi Bentum
Fannie Lou Hamer			Herdosi Kalambayi Bentum
Ella Baker			Herdosi Kalambayi Bentum
Justice			Herdosi Kalambayi Bentum
Charles Deslondes	A slave who went from plantation to plantation in St. John the Baptist Parish (40 miles north of New Orleans, recruiting participants in 1811, the largest slave uprising to create a nation free of slavery.		Barbara Chicherio / Coffee Wright
Emmett Till			Brenda Reddick
Michael Brown			Brenda Reddick
Amistad Revolt			Jerome Bauer
Canton Stampede	1849 Canton Stampede where a slave referred to only as "Miller's John" stole a trove of firearms and attempted to ead a group of several slaves to freedom in neighboring Illinois before succumbing to slave patrols in Lewis County, Missouri		Jerome Bauer / Joseph Civettini
Jeremy Cato	Angolan Slave who led a slave rebellion in South Carolina in 1739		Joseph Civettini
Martin Luther King	Name that people in our community can relate to and have a sense of pride		Gwendolyn Cogshell
Berlin Avenue	Pershing Avenue was Berlin Avenue		Alan Buxbaum, STLToday.com/letters
Katherine Johnson	12.2.2020 TTASStL recommendation/ Racist, confederal generals, slap in the face of people who live there. Times are changing, Figures of black excellent, beautiful, black names		Michaela Flowers
Angela Davis	Resetting the normal		Michaela Flowers
James Baldwin			Michaela Flowers
Nat Turner			Michaela Flowers
William Monroe Trotter			Michaela Flowers
Michael Brown	Civilian killed by police officer		Edna Harden/Don Fitz
Kim Gardner			Keith

Teens Taking Action St. Louis  
December 2, 2020 Zoom Call

Renames				
Name	Comment	Vetted	Submitted by	Teens Taking Action St. Louis December 2, 2020 Zoom Call
Ralph Bunche				
<b>Zaki Baruti</b>	International activist for over 50 years		Coffee Wright	
Geore Floyd			Hedy	
	Naming a building/ library		Keith	
Jamala Rodgers			Hedy	
John Wright	Historian, african american hero, school superintendent living in Ucity		Mark Harvey	
Percy Green Street			Digger Romano	
Miles Davis	Musicans rather than Generals		Randall Holmes	
Clark Terry	Musicans rather than Generals		Randall Holmes	
Lester Bowen	Musicans rather than Generals		Randall Holmes	
Historically Black College	Consistent with University names		Mark Harvey	

Comments below captured from Zoom call on 12.02.2020
Apology from governor of Missouri and president and elected representatives - reparations to slaves and Osage
Effect changes now -- "You don't want to live North of Olive"
Abomination of behavior
Reflect brutality on Black and Native people. End to ongoing brutality. Community control of police department - reflect racial composition. Effective civil review board. National campaign against immunity laws. Symbolic - Not honor anyone who was evil.

# **Study Session Agenda Item**

**April 26, 2021**

**Requested by Councilmembers Bwayne Smotherson and Stacy Clay**

RE: Proposal to Establish the *RPA 2 Steering Committee* to prepare a Third Ward Housing Action Plan and to govern the Use/Leverage of \$10 Million Generated from the I-170/Olive Project (RPA 1)

**Proposal to Establish the *RPA 2 Steering Committee* to prepare a Third Ward Housing Action Plan and to govern the Use/Leverage of \$10 Million Generated from the I-170/ Olive Project (RPA 1)**

University City has been provided with a great economic development opportunity to not only redevelop a low-performing commercial portion of the Olive Corridor at I-170, but also to provide funds to help reverse the decline of the adjacent residential areas, substantially the Third Ward.

Over the last 20 – 30 years, Third Ward neighborhoods have changed from vibrant enclaves of African-America home ownership to a place where homes are losing value and quality of life is diminishing. University City's philosophy of providing equal resources throughout the City, has not shielded the residents of the Third Ward from racist State and Federal policies that affected these neighborhoods differently. In reality, many of the City's past policies toward the areas of the city north of Olive Boulevard have actually contributed to segregation and decline in the Third Ward.

Equitable, not equal, treatment by the City is now required. Now is the time to address the needs of the Third Ward through the successful implementation of the RPA 2 Redevelopment project in an effort to stabilize the Third Ward. The actions needed by the City to address these conditions involve interventions in the housing market.

The primary purpose for inviting a commercial redevelopment project of the magnitude of Olive/ I-170 (RPA1), was to promote the revitalization of the Third Ward housing stock by providing seed money for its improvement.

The following redevelopment projects are listed in "*Olive Boulevard Commercial Corridor & Residential Conservation Area Redevelopment Plan*" for RPA 2 (primarily the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward):

*"RPA 2: Redevelopment activities intended to promote residential conservation, including:*

- *Residential property grant and loan program to fund various renovation and rehabilitation activities, including without limitation:*
  - *Improvements necessary to satisfy current building and safety code requirement;*
  - *Façade rehabilitation;*
  - *Repair/replacement of electrical, plumbing, heating, and cooling systems*
  - *Installation of a sprinkler, fire, and smoke alarm system; and*
  - *Parking lot paving and property landscaping.*
- *Completion of public improvements intended to encourage redevelopment of adjacent properties;*
- *Acquisition of vacant parcels and parcels with dilapidated structures in need of renovation or demolition and clearance; and*
- *Demolition, renovation and/or construction of new residential and neighborhood-level commercial buildings;" (09/04/2018, pg. 15)*

As outlined above, residential conservation is the primary goal of the RPA 2- Redevelopment Plan. Therefore, most of the \$10 million should be dedicated exclusively to housing programs and projects. Although money from the TIF alone will not solve all the housing issues, it is the only source of unencumbered funding available to the City to create programs and strategies that will stop declining values and deteriorating housing conditions on the scale in which they exist in the Third Ward. It can be used to leverage other resources from banks, foundations, private and public investments over several years to stabilize the project neighborhoods. Non-housing related neighborhood infrastructure, amenities, and safety needs should be funded from existing tax revenues and additional tax revenue generated by the Olive/I-170 TIF Project. [\[1\]](#)

Considering the unique history of discrimination and disinvestment in RPA 2, Third Ward councilmen Clay and Smotherson believe that the City Council should embrace a more equitable approach to citizen engagement by forming the **RPA 2 Steering Committee**. The Committee will guide the preparation and use of a Third Ward Housing Action Plan, which will determine how the \$3 million now (\$7 million later) would be best utilized for the exclusive benefit of RPA 2 redevelopment project. The membership should represent the interest of the various stakeholders from the Third Ward, but most importantly, neighborhood residents from different parts of the Ward.

Therefore, members of the Steering Committee would be named by the Third Ward councilmen and approved by the city council. The plan making process would be guided by the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee would continue to function through the Housing Action Plan implementation, including monitoring the appropriate use of the \$10 million fund. Improvement of the Third Ward neighborhoods will be a complicated and immense undertaking that will require careful planning and collaboration with a number of stakeholders.

The Steering Committee would consist of a variety of stakeholders. The number of steering committee members would be nine and they would be appointed to a three-year term with the option of one renewal term.

2 – Third Ward council members

5 – Third ward residents

1 – From an active community development organization

1 – Plan Commission chairperson or designee

The RPA 2 Steering Committee should be created immediately to start the planning process and to address the I-170/Olive Redevelopment Agreement obligations that benefit Third Ward residents and hopefully contribute to the successful revitalization of the Third Ward.

Respectfully yours

Third Ward Councilmen, Stacy Clay and Bwayne Smotherson