

ORDINANCE
CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

CITY HALL: June 18, 2020

CALENDAR NO. 33,004

NO. _____ MAYOR COUNCIL SERIES

**BY: COUNCILMEMBERS MORENO, WILLIAMS, GIARRUSSO, BANKS,
GISLESON PALMER, BROSSETT AND NGUYEN**

AN ORDINANCE to change the name of the entirety of South Jefferson Davis Parkway to South Doctor Norman Francis Parkway; to change the name of the divided, four-lane section of North Jefferson Davis Parkway, extending from Canal Street to Lafitte Avenue, to North Doctor Norman Francis Parkway; to change the name of the undivided, two-lane portion of North Jefferson Davis Parkway, extending from Lafitte Avenue to Orleans Avenue, to Moss Street; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS Jefferson Davis Parkway currently honors the first and only president of the Confederate States of America – a confederation of Southern states that took up arms against our nation to preserve the institution of slavery; and

WHEREAS the street was renamed for Jefferson Davis in the 1910s, at the height of the Jim Crow era, to reinforce white supremacist values and to romanticize the terror of injustice of the antebellum South; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson Davis Parkway runs near Xavier University – the nation’s only historically black Roman Catholic University and a source of immense pride to New Orleanians of all races and backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, no person – living or dead – stands in starker contrast to the outmoded ideals of Jefferson Davis than Dr. Norman C. Francis, who served as Xavier’s president for nearly 50 years; and

WHEREAS Doctor Francis is a military veteran, a champion of the civil rights movement, a civic leader, a tireless proponent of philanthropic endeavors, and a winner of the Presidential Medal of Freedom; **NOW THEREFORE**

1 **SECTION 1. THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS HEREBY**
2 **ORDAINS**, That

3 (a) the street currently known as South Jefferson Davis Parkway shall henceforth be named
4 South Doctor Norman Francis Parkway;

5 (b) the divided, four-lane section of North Jefferson Davis Parkway, extending from Canal
6 Street to Lafitte Avenue, shall henceforth be named North Doctor Norman Francis
7 Parkway; and

8 (c) the undivided, two-lane portion of North Jefferson Davis Parkway, extending from
9 Lafitte Avenue to Orleans Avenue, shall henceforth be named Moss Street.

1 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Public Works shall signify all changes imposed by this
2 ordinance though the installation of new signage.

1 **SECTION 3.** The Clerk of Council shall notify the New Orleans Police Department, the
2 New Orleans Fire Department, New Orleans EMS, the Sewerage and Water Board, the United
3 States Postal Service, the Department of Public Works, the Orleans Parish Communications
4 District, and all other appropriate agencies of the renaming of Jefferson Davis Parkway.

ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS _____

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

DELIVERED TO THE MAYOR ON _____

APPROVED:
DISAPPROVED: _____

MAYOR

RETURNED BY THE MAYOR ON _____ **AT** _____

CLERK OF COUNCIL

ROLL CALL VOTE:
YEAS:
NAYS:
ABSENT:
RECUSED: