

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-R-39

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO RENAME THAT PORTION OF WEST DIXIE HIGHWAY/STATE ROAD 909 FROM NORTHEAST 119TH STREET TO NORTHEAST 163RD STREET AS “HARRIET TUBMAN HIGHWAY”; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR ALL OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, Harriet Ross Tubman, was an abolitionist and political activist who dedicated her life to the universal plight for freedom for all; and

**WHEREAS**, known as the Moses of her people, Ms. Tubman helped to establish and mobilize the Underground Railroad, comprised of a network of abolitionists and safe houses that provided enslaved individuals with a passage to freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Tubman was the Conductor for the Underground Railroad, who is said to have never “lost a passenger”; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Tubman was the first documented woman to lead an armed assault during the Civil War, where she also served as a nurse, and intelligence operative for the Union Army; and

**WHEREAS**, she also solidified her place on the frontlines of the Women’s Suffrage Movement, where she boldly advocated for women’s right to vote; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of her immeasurable contributions to the fabric of this nation, the Mayor and City Council would like to honor the memory, legacy, and tenacity of Ms. Harriet Ross Tubman, as well as take a staunch proactive stance on the necessary eradication of the lingering markers within Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida which continue to celebrate a painful history of systemic racism including Old Dixie Highway, West Dixie Highway, and South Dixie Highway by urging the Florida Legislature to rename that portion of West Dixie Highway/State Road 909 from Northeast 119th Street to Northeast 163rd Street as “Harriet Tubman Highway State Road 909; and

**WHEREAS**, under its present moniker, Dixie represents a troubling time in our nation’s

past, marred by the inhumane celebration and unconscionable profit of the perils of racism, segregation, and the atrocities of slavery; and

**WHEREAS**, it is only fitting that Dixie's current nomenclature be replaced by the matchless legacy of a warrior whose heroic and selfless fight for freedom and justice has served the best interests of Miami-Dade County, the state of Florida, and the nation, and has undoubtedly provided a direct and significant impact on Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, because portions of West Dixie Highway/State Road 909 and South Dixie Highway/U.S. Route 1/State Road 5 are state roads, the Florida Legislature would be required to rename those roads; and

**WHEREAS**, section 334.071, Florida Statutes, provides that the erection of markers for state road designations shall be contingent upon the appropriate city or county commission passing a resolution in support of the particular honorary designation.

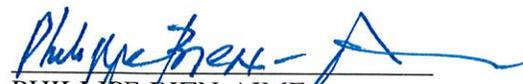
**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA:**

**Section 1.** **Mayor and City Council Urging Renaming of Dixie Highway.** The Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, hereby urge the Florida Legislature to rename that portion of West Dixie Highway/State Road 909, from Northeast 119 Street to Northeast 163 Street as "Harriet Tubman Highway."

**Section 2.** **Transmittal.** The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Governor, the Senate President, the House Speaker, and the Chair.

**Section 3.** **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by a 4-0 vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, this 10th day of March, 2020.

  
PHILIPPE BIEN-AIME  
MAYOR

ATTEST:



\_\_\_\_\_  
VANESSA JOSEPH, ESQ.  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



\_\_\_\_\_  
JEFF P. H. CAZEAU, ESQ.  
CITY ATTORNEY

SPONSORED BY: COUNCILWOMAN ESTIME-IRVIN

Moved by: Keys

Seconded by: Bien-Aime

**Vote:**

Mayor Philippe Bien-Aime  
Vice Mayor Alix Desulme, Ed.D.  
Councilman Scott Galvin  
Councilwoman Carol Keys, Esq.  
Councilwoman Mary Estimé-Irvin

<u>  X  </u>	(Yes)	<u>      </u>	(No)	
<u>      </u>	(Yes)	<u>      </u>	(No)	Absent from Dais
<u>  X  </u>	(Yes)	<u>      </u>	(No)	
<u>  X  </u>	(Yes)	<u>      </u>	(No)	
<u>  X  </u>	(Yes)	<u>      </u>	(No)	