Introduced by Council Member Newby and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Morgan and Pittman:

**ORDINANCE 2018-381-E**

AN ORDINANCE REGARDING AN HONORARY STREET DESIGNATION AND ASSOCIATED ROADWAY MARKERS; ESTABLISHING AN HONORARY STREET DESIGNATION ON INTERSTATE CENTER DRIVE EXTENDING FROM CLARK ROAD TO DE PAUL DRIVE IN JACKSONVILLE FOR DR. TOM E. DIAMOND; PROVIDING FOR THE INSTALLATION OF TWO HONORARY ROADWAY MARKERS TO BE LOCATED IN APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS ON THE DESIGNATED ROADWAY IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 8; HONORING THE LEGACY OF DR. TOM E. DIAMOND, AND RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. TOM E. DIAMOND; WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 745.105(I)(3), ORDINANCE CODE, REGARDING PERSONS FOR WHOM HONORARY STREET DESIGNATIONS MAY BE NAMED; DIRECTING LEGISLATIVE SERVICES TO FORWARD THE ORDINANCE TO THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS,** Dr. Tom E. Diamond was a resident of Florida having strong ties to the Jacksonville community for more than 25 years; and

**WHEREAS,** after earning an English degree at Florida Memorial College, a Master’s at Colgate Rochester College (N.Y.) and a Doctorate at Columbia Theological Seminary, Dr. Diamond dedicated the majority of his pastoral ministry for 26 years as the Senior Pastor of Abyssinia Missionary Baptist Church located in Jacksonville; and

**WHEREAS,** previously, in 1975, Dr. Diamond was appointed the first pastor at St. Peter’s Missionary Baptist Church in Gifford, Florida; and

**WHEREAS,** Dr. Diamond was elected President of the Florida General Baptist Congress of General Education, and also lectured numerous ministers, on behalf of the National Congress of Christian Education, where he discussed the topic of the “growth of churches via Sunday School”; and

**WHEREAS,** in addition to his pastoral legacy, Dr. Tom E. Diamond volunteered in several civic organizations including the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, the Baptist Ministers Alliance and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; and

**WHEREAS,** Dr. Diamond set aside time to write several books entitled “Book of Sermons – Not Much Just Crumbs,” “Sermons from the Heart of the Diamond Mind,” and “From Boys to Men.”

**WHEREAS,** Dr. Diamond was passionate about people, and participated in civil rights causes, and through this endeavor, he was recognized for his style of preaching and teaching in the ministry; and

**WHEREAS,** Dr. Tom E. Diamond passed on November 1, 2010, at the age of 67; and

**WHEREAS,** on March 23, 2018, and April 23, 2018, the Planning and Development Department mailed written notifications to affected property owners concerning the proposed honorary street, and requested their written consent or objection to the proposed honorary street designation (See attached **Exhibit 1**); and

**WHEREAS,** four (4) property owners (East Cooling Tower, Inc., Annie Ruth Foundation, Express Printing & Office Supply, Inc. and Abyssinia Baptist Church) returned the Honorary Street Designation Form wherein the property owners indicated their consent to the proposed designation (See attached **Exhibit 2**); and

**WHEREAS,** because the remaining property owners whose address is assigned to the street designated for honorary markers did not return the requested form to the Planning and Development Department, such remaining property owners are deemed to have consented to the honorary designation of the street; and

**WHEREAS,** a private donor has remitted funds to satisfy the cost for the honorary markers (See attached **Exhibit 3)**; and

**WHEREAS,** the Council finds that the accomplishments of Dr. Tom E. Diamond are worthy and deserving of a form of recognition that the City of Jacksonville and Dr. Tom E. Diamond’s family, friends, and colleagues can share and celebrate in, to wit: the creation of an honorary street designation and the installation of two appropriate honorary roadway markers on Interstate Center Drive extending from Clark Road to De Paul Drive in Council District 8; now therefore,

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

**Section 1. Interstate Center Drive to receive an honorary street designation for Dr. Tom E. Diamond.** Interstate Center Drive extending from Clark Road to De Paul Drive in Council District 8 shall hereby be designated an honorary street designation as contemplated by Section 745.105(j), *Ordinance Code*, for Dr. Tom E. Diamond. A map of the road designation is attached hereto as **Exhibit 4**.

**Section 2.** **Honorary Roadside Markers for Dr. Tom E. Diamond to be installed**.Two honorary roadway memorial markers, as contemplated by Section 745.105 (j), *Ordinance Code*, recognizing and honoring Dr. Tom E. Diamond shall be placed in appropriate locations on Interstate Center Drive.

**Section 3. Waiver of Section 745.105(i) (3).** Section 745.105(i) (3), *Ordinance Code,* requiring the approval of honorary designations only for persons residing within 5 miles of the location of the designation for a period of 10 years is hereby waived due to the fact that the honoree served 26 years (1984-2010) as Senior Pastor of Abyssinia Missionary Baptist Church, which is actually located at 10325 Interstate Center Drive and within 5 miles of the location of the honorary designation.

**Section 4. Directing Legislative Services to forward a copy to the Planning and Development Department.** The Chief of Legislative Services is requested to send a copy of this legislation, once enacted, to the Planning and Development Department, Addressing Unit, for processing, implementation, and coordination with the Public Works Department, Traffic Engineering Division and other affected agencies and organizations.

**Section 5. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/ Margaret M. Sidman

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Cherry Shaw Pollock

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