

WHEREAS, Alderwoman Shirley J. Newsome was a resident of the North Kenwood – Oakland area of Chicago for over 34 years.

WHEREAS, Mrs. Newsome was an important organizer in the effort to designate North Kenwood – Oakland (NKO) as a conservation area, and she later served as the Chairwoman of the NKO Conservation Community Council.

WHEREAS, she was actively involved in addressing quality-of-life issues in neighborhoods ranging from Hyde Park to South Kenwood, from Washington Park to Woodlawn, as Chairperson of the South East Chicago Commission.

WHEREAS, professionally Shirley J. Newsome led a distinguished 45-year career working for various federal agencies. Working tirelessly for 33 of those years for the Federal Circuit Court system.

WHEREAS, in 2011 Mrs. Newsome came out of retirement when she was appointed Alderwoman of the 4th Ward, during which time she made sure ward operations ran smoothly and that residents were well represented.

WHEREAS, Shirley J. Newsome was a proud and active member at Monumental Baptist Church since 1979, where she held several leadership positions.

WHEREAS, she will be fondly remembered by her surviving brother, sister, granddaughter, three great-grandchildren, and a host of community members on the South Side.

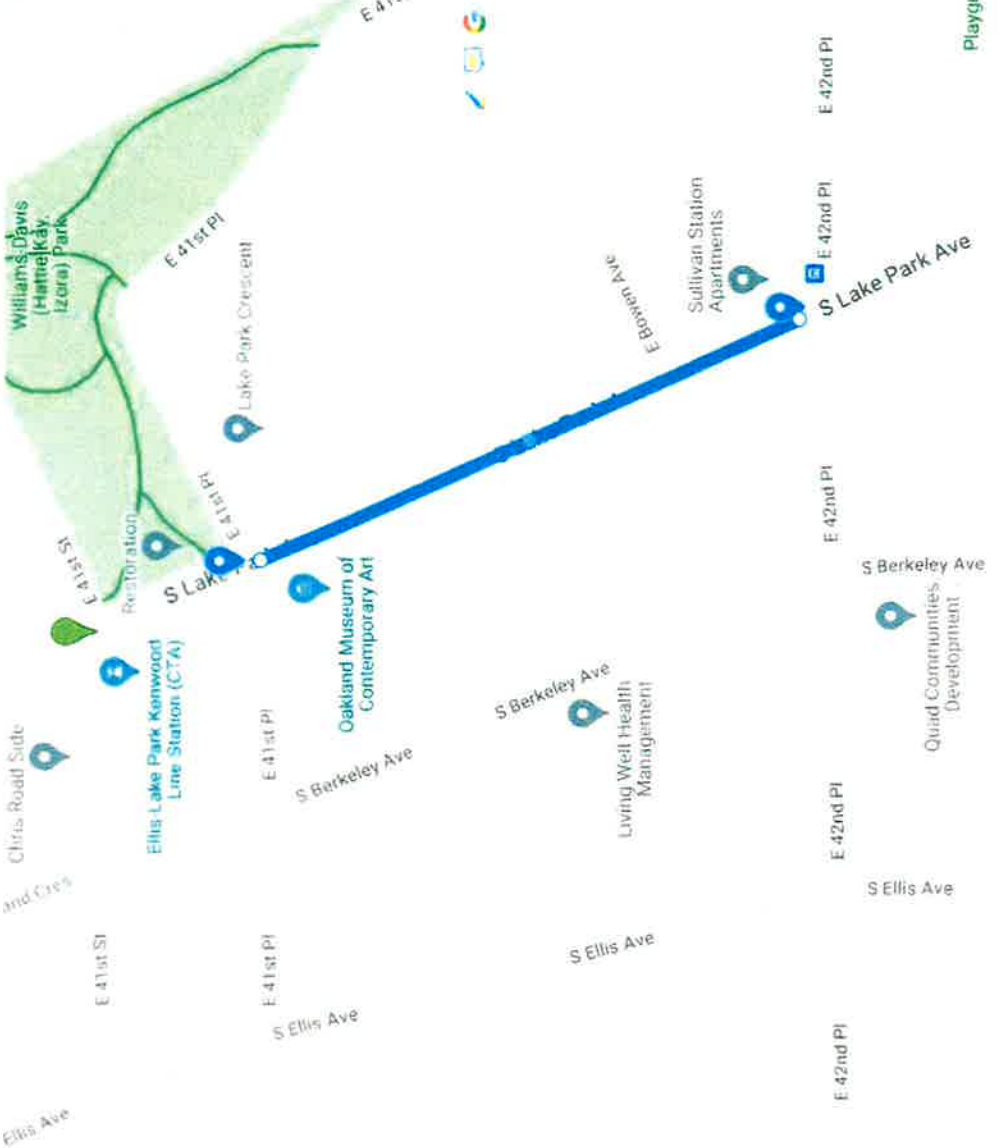
BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Section 1. Pursuant to Section 2-8-040 of the Municipal Code of Chicago, which allows erection of honorary street name designations, the Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Transportation shall take the necessary action for standardization of South Lake Park, between 41st and 42nd Place, as "Honorary Shirley J. Newsome Way."

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leonard J. Quinn". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alderman, Ward 4



SHIRLEY J. NEWSOME

Resident of North Kenwood-Oakland for the past thirty-four plus years (1979 to present).

Began community involvement in 1981 with the organization of the Lake Park-Berkeley-Ellis-Drexel Block Club Association.

Since 1988 Shirley was actively involved the process of engaging community around the development affordable and mix-income housing, recreational facilities, the development of commercial and mixed-use properties on the commercial corridors, policies, planning, and agenda related to the overall Quality of Life of the residences in multiple neighborhoods on the southeast side of Chicago.

Shirley participated in the planning process that led to the designation of North Kenwood-Oakland as a Conservation Area, serving as the Planning Committee Co-Chair and later appointed Chairman of the NKO Conservation Community Council following City Council designation.

She was actively involved in all the "Quality of Life" issues of community development and revitalization: Schools, Parks, Child Care, Cultural Arts, Crime and Safety, and serve as community representative for North Kenwood-Oakland on various committees addressing these areas. Her community work extended to the neighborhoods of Hyde Park, South Kenwood, Washington Park, and Woodlawn when appointed to the South East Chicago Commissions' board of directors by the University of Chicago, and later lead the organization as its chairperson, with particular focus on housing, transportation, business development and retention, neighborhood improvement, and arts and culture.

Shirley retired in 2006 after a distinguished career that spanned 45 years across various agencies of the United States Government. Thirty-three of those years were with the Federal Circuit Court system, with the last eleven in the Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit in the court of Circuit Judge Diane P. Wood. She worked in role as Executive and Judicial Assistant, Legal Secretary and Stereographer, and brought all her professional skills and experience to her work in the community. She was known for taking details notes, often in Short-Hand and maintaining well organized documentation.

In 2011, Shirley came out of retirement and continued her serve to our community when she accepted an appointment as Interim Alderman of the Fourth Ward, City of Chicago. While her time as an appointed official was short, the impact was critically important to assuring that development and revitalization planning continued to move forward during that interim period.

Throughout her career with the U. S. Government, she received regular acknowledgements and awards for outstanding quality, special service, and length of service across multiple agencies.

Shirley was a proud and active member and held various leadership position at Monumental Baptist Church since 1979. Shirley treasured her Monumental family, along with her church family leaves a brother, sister, grand-daughter, three great-grandchildren and numerous other family members and the community to mourn her loss.

At the time of her passing, Shirley maintained her membership with the Federal Judicial Assistants Association and serviced in the following volunteer capacities:

CURRENT AFFILIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Chairman, Board of Directors, Quad Communities Development Corporation, NFP (QCDC)
- Vice-Chair/Commissioner, Community Development Commission, City of Chicago
- Member, Obama Presidential Library Community Advisory Council
- Member, Fourth Ward Democratic Organization
- Member, Ida B. Wells Commemorative Art Committee
- Member/Community Representative, Chicago Housing Authority Working Groups:
 - Lake Park Crescent
 - Jazz on the Boulevard
 - Oakwood Shores (formally Ida B Wells)
 - 4400 Grove (formally Washington)
 - Park Homes CHA Transformation Sites
- Member, Chicago Park District Advisory Councils
 - Mandrake Park
 - Williams-Davis Park
 - Ellis Park

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Monumental Baptist Church
- Member, Superintendents' Council of Greater Chicago
- Director of Religious Education, Monumental Baptist Church Sunday School

AWARDS/COMMENDATIONS/HONORS

- Leadership Award – 2011, Fourth Ward Democratic Organization
- Community Heroes Award – 2009, Local Initiative Support Corporation
- Community Service Award – 2006, Abraham Lincoln Centre
- Community Service Award – 2005, Genesis Housing
- Community Service Award – 2002, Business & Professional People for the Public Interest
- "Friend of the Neighborhood Award" – 2000, Community Neighborhood Development Awards/ LISC Chicago
- Numerous Community Service and Civic Awards (1991 to Present)
- Numerous Letters of Appreciation/Commendation (Professional) (1964 to Present)
- Numerous Religious Education Awards (1981 to Present)

EDUCATION & WORK-RELATED CERTIFICATIONS

Various Certifications, Continuing Legal/Paralegal Education (1971 – 2006)

Certification, Speedwriting Secretarial School (1965 to 1966)

Chicago Teachers College-South (1962 to 1964)

FORMER AFFILIATIONS

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

- Former Chairman, Board of Directors, South East Chicago Commission (2008 - 2019)
- Former 002nd Chicago Police District Advisory Council/CAPS (1981 to 2020)
- Former Member/ Chairman, Board of Directors, The University of Chicago Charter Schools, Incorporated (1995 to 2014)
- Former Member/Chairman, North Kenwood-Oakland Conservation Community Council (Mayoral Appointee - (February 1991 to January 2011)
- Former Member, Mayor's Tech Park Task Force on Michael Reese Hospital Site (2011)
- Former Member, Chicago 2016 Olympics Committee (Community Outreach, Village, Transportation Sub-Committees) (2009 - 2011)
- Former Member, Mayor's CPS Mid-South Communities Schools Planning Committee (2004)
- Former Member/Chairman, 021st Chicago Police District Steering Committee (Beat Representative Program/Executive Committee) (1981 to 1995)
- Former Member, Chicago Housing Authority MINCS Coordinating Council (Mayoral Appointee) & Lakefront Properties Working Group (1991 to 1993)
- Former Member, City of Chicago Empowerment Zone/Enterprising Community Coordinating Council (Mayoral Appointee) (1995 to 1997)
- Former Member, Chicago Commission on Human Relations (Region IV Task Force) (1993 to 1996)
- Former Member, Burnham Park Framework Planning Committee (1995 to 1996)
- Former Member, South Lake Shore Drive Reconstruction Advisory Committee
- Former Member, Chicago Public Schools Mid-South Schools Planning Committee (2001 to 2002)
- Former Member, COOT Lake Shore Drive Bridge Competition Committee (2001)

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS

- Former Dean, Monumental Baptist Bible Institute (Evangelical Training Association) (1992 to 1993)
- Student, Moody Bible Institute (1976 to 1979) Student, Chicago Baptist Institute (1974 to 1976)
- Member, Older Boys & Girls Conference (1962 to 1964)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Former Member, Chicago Legal Secretaries Association Former Member, Illinois Association of Legal Secretaries