

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION  
OCTOBER 20, 2015 AGENDA**

<p><b>Subject:</b></p> <p>A resolution to rename Confederate Boulevard to Springer Boulevard (G-25-218)</p> <p><b>Submitted By:</b></p> <p>Planning &amp; Development Department</p>	<p><b>Action Required:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ordinance √ <b>Resolution</b> Approval Information Report</p>	<p><b>Approved By:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bruce T. Moore City Manager</p>
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<b>SYNOPSIS</b>	The applicants are requesting that the name of Confederate Boulevard be changed to Springer Boulevard. The current Confederate Boulevard street name begins on the north at the East 21 <sup>st</sup> Street/Barber Street/Confederate Boulevard intersection and extends south about ten (10) blocks to the Railroad/Springer Street crossing.
<b>FISCAL IMPACT</b>	Approximately six (6) new street signs will be needed at a cost of \$100.00 per sign.
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	Approval of the resolution.
<b>CITIZEN PARTICIPATION</b>	The Planning Commission reviewed this proposal at its September 24, 2015, meeting. There were two (2) objectors and ten (10) - twelve (12) supporters present. Notice of the hearing was sent to all parties with an address on the street and the Granite Mountain and Community Outreach Neighborhood Associations. Two (2) e-mails of opposition and ten (10) emails of support had been received by staff and forwarded to the Commission. The Commission voted 10 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent to approve the proposed street name change.
<b>BACKGROUND</b>	The applicant is requesting that the remaining portion of Confederate Boulevard be renamed Springer Boulevard. The current Confederate Boulevard street name begins on the north at the East 21 <sup>st</sup> Street/Barber Street/Confederate Boulevard intersection and extends south about ten (10) blocks to the Railroad/Springer Street crossing.

## **BACKGROUND**

In late 1973 and early 1974, the Board of Directors considered a request to rename all of Confederate Boulevard to Springer Boulevard in recognition of Rev. Horace Springer, an early resident of Granite Mountain and a community leader. The Board held a public hearing on December 11, 1973. There was some opposition from residents and business owners who did not want the street name changed due to potential confusion and inconvenience. The Board tabled the matter until the January 2, 1974, meeting in order that the issue might be further studied. The January 2, 1974, meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather and the item was taken up at the January 9, 1974, meeting. At that meeting, a resolution was put forth to change the name of Confederate Boulevard, from the Biddle shops (railroad) south, to Springer Boulevard. The resolution was approved by unanimous consent of the Board members present. This left the Confederate Boulevard name in place for the portion north of the railroad.

The genesis of the Confederate Boulevard name is uncertain but it is likely related to the fact that the road ran between the Confederate Cemetery that was established adjacent to the National Cemetery in 1884 and the Confederate Veterans home that was opened in 1890 near Sweet Home. At times the road was known as the Pine Bluff Highway and the Sweet Home Pike.