

RESOLUTION NO. 21-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, ADDING "RUBIN STACY MEMORIAL BOULEVARD" AS THE SECONDARY STREET NAME TO THAT SEGMENT OF DAVIE BOULEVARD (STATE ROAD 736) BETWEEN INTERSTATE 95 AND UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 441, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, according to records maintained by The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), between 1882 and 1968, approximately 4,743 people, mostly black Americans, were lynched in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, these records further reveal that Rubin Stacy, a 29-year-old black American male laborer, was lynched in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on July 19, 1935; and

WHEREAS, in various sources, Rubin Stacy's name also appears as "Rueben Stacey"; and

WHEREAS, according to the "Population Census 1935," Mr. Stacy was a married man, with a son, and was a resident of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and

WHEREAS, various news reports have offered conflicting accounts as to the allegations by a white woman, who lived on Old Davie Road, now known as Davie Boulevard, just Southwest of 31st Avenue, which led to Mr. Stacy's arrest and ultimate lynching; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stacy was killed near the accuser's home and was left hanging from a tree, while nearly one thousand people from all over South Florida came to see his mutilated body; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stacy's death certificate lists "lynching by mob" as a contributing cause of his death and the principal cause of death was a "broken neck and gunshot wounds through the heart"; and

WHEREAS, a grand jury investigation into the lynching of Mr. Stacy was futile and did not identify any members of "the mob"; and

WHEREAS, photographs of crowds gawking at the body of the murdered Mr. Stacy, were used by the NAACP to support its efforts to pass an antilynching law, without success.

WHEREAS, on July 19, 2020, Broward County announced a proclamation designating that day as "Rubin Stacy Remembrance Day," in Broward County; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale wishes to memorialize Rubin Stacy and bring awareness and education to the injustice and negative impacts surrounding acts of lynching, racial injustice, and social inequality by designating the segment of Davie Boulevard (State Road 736) between Interstate 95 ("I-95") and United States Highway 441 ("US-441"), also known as State Road 7, with the secondary street name of "Rubin Stacy Memorial Boulevard" in an effort to encourage the search for truth and reconciliation that leads to real solutions to contemporary problems; and

WHEREAS, Davie Boulevard (State Road 736) is a part of the State Highway System and its jurisdiction ranges between the State, Broward County, and local municipality; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Florida Statutes Section 336.5(1), county commissioners are authorized to name and rename streets and roads, except state roads designated by number by the department, lying outside the boundaries of any incorporated municipality; and

WHEREAS, the segment of Davie Boulevard (State Road 736), between I-95 and US 441, is completely within the boundaries of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Florida Statutes Section 166.021, the City of Fort Lauderdale has the governmental, corporate, and proprietary powers to enable them to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions, and render municipal services, and may exercise any power for municipal purposes, except when expressly prohibited by law; and

WHEREAS, Davie Boulevard will be retained as the primary street name; and

WHEREAS, the signage layout has been reviewed and approved by the Florida Department of Transportation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That the segment of Davie Boulevard (State Road 736) between I-95 and US-441 shall now be also known as "Rubin Stacy Memorial Boulevard."

SECTION 2. That the City Clerk is directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the Broward County Traffic Engineer for future inclusion in the "Official Map of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida."

SECTION 3. That the City Clerk is directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the City Engineer for future inclusion in the "Official Map of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida."

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2021.

Mayor
DEAN J. TRANTALIS

ATTEST:

City Clerk
JEFFREY A. MODARELLI