



## City of Gainesville Agenda Item Report

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**File Number:** 2024-905

**Agenda Date:** January 16, 2025

**Department:** Public Works Department

**Title:** 2024-905 Honorary Street Naming of NE 12th Terrace Between NE 23rd Avenue and NE 21st Avenue (B)

**Department:** Public Works

**Description:** A Resolution to dual-name NE 12<sup>th</sup> Terrace from NE 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to NE 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue, "Bishop Walter Camps Sr. Street" in honor of the late Bishop Walter Camps Sr., who tirelessly served his community for more than 50 years.

**Fiscal Note:** The fiscal impact associated with this request is approximately \$1,852.20; this includes the cost of materials, equipment and labor to fabricate and install signage. The funding for this project is available in the Department's FY 2025 Operating Budget.

**Explanation:** The City received a petition behalf of Bishop Walter Camps Sr., requesting the dual naming of NE 12<sup>th</sup> Terrace between NE 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and NE 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue as "Bishop Walter Camps Sr. Street." Bishop Camps, before his passing on December 16, 2007, dedicated more than 50 years to his ministry and community at large.

Bishop Camps Sr. served as District Superintendent for the Church of God by Faith Gainesville district which entailed the oversight of more than 20 churches. Bishop Camps Sr.'s love of ministry lead him to minister beyond his Gainesville district and into Hopewell, Blitchton, Bradford, East Palatka and Keystone Heights. Born out of the desire to spread the gospel across the nation, in 1975 Bishop Camps Sr. established Holy Temple of God Inc. with locations in Florida, Georgia and Illinois where he touched the lives of countless individuals with his "Camps Crusade" ministry.

In 1989, Bishop Camps Sr. purchased Landmark Holy Temple of God that sat on a six acre parcel of land at 1220 NE 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Bishop Camps Sr. would serve as pastor at this location until his passing in 2007.

In 1995, after 20 years as a dedicated City of Gainesville/Gainesville Regional Utility employee, Bishop Camps Sr. retired. In retirement, Bishop Camps Sr. went on to serve his community as a member of the Black-on-Black Crime Task Force (1995-2000) under the leadership of Police Chief Tony Jones, providing resources to improve the

lives of children and families, Alachua County Christian Pastor Association, Inc. (2000-2007) fostering unity and collaboration among local churches and is honored in their “Gallery of Generals”, the Bread of the Mighty Food Bank food distribution program (2000-2007) and as an active board member of the Action Network (2002-2007) an interfaith advocacy group that promotes social justice and equality.

Bishop Camps Sr. has been recognized by both the City of Gainesville and Alachua County for his unwavering dedication to his faith and tireless service to the community.

Following his passing in 2007, the Bishop Walter Camps Sr. Memorial Scholarship was established to honor his legacy of faith, service and community. To date, the scholarship has supported students in their pursuit of higher education at Santa Fe College, the University of Florida, Bethune-Cookman University and Florida A&M University.

**Strategic Connection:**

- ☐ Goal 1: Equitable Community
- ☐ Goal 2: More Sustainable Community
- ☒ Goal 3: A Great Place to Live and Experience
- ☐ Goal 4: Resilient Local Economy
- ☐ Goal 5: “Best in Class” Neighbor Services

**Recommendation:** The City Commission adopt the Resolution to dual name NE 12th Terrace from NE 23rd Avenue to NE 21st Avenue, “Bishop Walter Camps Sr. Street.”