



City of Gainesville Agenda Item Report

File Number: 2023-978

Agenda Date: October 19, 2023

Department: City Manager

Title: 2023-978 Resolution Supporting the Designation of Dylan Roberts Memorial Crosswalk on East University Avenue and Dual Naming NE 26th Terrace as “Dylan Roberts Road” (B)

Department: City Manager’s Office

Description: A resolution to support naming the newly constructed pedestrian crosswalk on East University Avenue between NE 26th Terrace and SE 26th Terrace in memory of four-year-old Dylan Roberts, and to dual name NE 26th Terrace between East University Avenue and NE 1st Place as “Dylan Roberts Road.”

Fiscal Note: No fiscal impact.

Explanation: The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has completed construction and installation of a pedestrian-activated signal across East University Avenue between Northeast 26th Terrace and Southeast 26th Terrace. This new safety measure is a collaborative effort between FDOT and the City of Gainesville. The City will continue to own the land where the signal is installed, with maintenance provided by FDOT.

This project was prioritized after the death of four-year-old Dylan Roberts. On October 27, 2021, Dylan was struck by a car while crossing University Avenue on the way home from Fred Cone Park. The crosswalk is a City response to improve pedestrian safety and this resolution affirms the City’s support for a proposed action by the Florida Legislature and Florida Department of Transportation designate this as “Dylan Roberts Memorial Crosswalk” and to erect suitable markers proclaiming that designation.

Staff has spent several months working with Dylan’s mother, Megan Durant, in her tireless efforts to honor her son’s life and to promote safety for all pedestrians. Along with this resolution, staff recommends the nearest intersecting road, NE 26th Terrace, be dual named “Dylan Roberts Road.”

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: (1) adopt the resolution supporting the request to name the crosswalk on East University Avenue between NE 26th Terrace and SE 26th Terrace in memory of Dylan Roberts, and (2) support the request to dual name NE 26th Terrace as “Dylan Roberts Road.”