

RESOLUTION NO. 71 OF 2022

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO DEDICATE THE
100 BLOCK OF CARONDELET DRIVE IN HONOR OF CYNTHIA
RENEE' HIGHTOWER-JENKINS AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING
WITH RESPECT THERETO.**

BY: COUNCILMAN JERRY BOWMAN, JR.

WHEREAS, Cynthia Renee' Hightower-Jenkins believed in the American dream. She believed that she could successfully achieve goals that fulfilled her and move her family community and the greater society forward. She refused to let circumstances of birth, or low expectations based on race or gender defeat her. Her American dream was achieved through hard work, sacrifice, and risk-taking; and

WHEREAS, Cynthia, a community activist, entrepreneur, mother and wife died on July 29, 2021, at age sixty-four; and

WHEREAS, Cynthia was a proud graduate of Booker T. Washington High School, and continued her education at Southern University; and

WHEREAS, Cynthia was a writer: She hosted a social column in the Shreveport Sun, penned several published articles and wrote nineteen originals ballads, some of which she performed; and

WHEREAS, Cynthia had an entrepreneurial spirit: She was a fashion designer and founded a clothing line, CHJ LeRoux. She received numerous awards and honors including: The Shreveport Times Best Dressed, she was featured on HGTV Spotlight, appeared as a talk show host and the judge of a Miss USA Pageant. Cynthia was employed for many years as a teller and mortgage clerk for American Bank & Trust and United Mercantile Bank; and

WHEREAS, Cynthia lent her time and resources to religious, social, philanthropic and financial organizations that made our community a better place to live, work and play including: Baptist Bible Fellowship; The Links Incorporated, where she served as Regional and International Protocol Chairman and Vice President of the Shreveport Chapter; The Women's Philanthropy Network; The Junior League of Shreveport; The Committee of 100; President of The Minority Business Council; The Minority Business Opportunity Expo; The Downtown Rotary Club; The Executive Board of The Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce; Christian Services; Shreveport Chapter of Jack & Jill of America; Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Foundation; Business and Professional Women and Northwest Louisiana Master Gardeners' Association; and

WHEREAS, Cynthia was the wife of Louisiana State Representative Samuel L. Jenkins and the mother of Atari and Annia; and

WHEREAS, because of Cynthia's many contributions to the citizens of Shreveport, and her demonstration that it is possible to achieve a fulfilling and exemplary life regardless of circumstances of birth, it is fitting and proper for the City of Shreveport to honor her life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Mayor on behalf of the City, is authorized to dedicate the 100 block of Carondelet Drive in honor of Cynthia Renee' Hightower-Jenkins.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in accordance with Resolution No. 156 of 2019, the dedication marker should be approximately 9 inches tall and 42 inches wide and should be placed on an existing standard or street sign if the placement is authorized by Traffic Engineering.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be executed in duplicate originals with one original presented to Samuel L Jenkins and the other resolution filed in perpetuity in the office of the Clerk of Council for the City of Shreveport.

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

City Attorney's Office