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August 28, 2014

Portland City Council
Portland City Hall
1211 SW 4th Ave
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mayor Hales and City Council Members:

On August 26, 2014 the Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC) voted unanimously to recommend to City Council renaming North Winning Way to North Ramsay Way.

The PSC hearing and discussion followed the public meeting held by the Historian Panel appointed by the Commissioner-in-Charge of Transportation, Commissioner Steve Novick. The Historian Panel was charged with determining the appropriateness of the proposed honoree.

The Historian Panel found that Dr. Jack Ramsay is an appropriate person after whom a street may be renamed, determined that the location of North Winning Way was an appropriate context for the renaming, and found that North Winning Way had no historical significance. The Historian Panel did, however, find that it was important to acknowledge and recognize the historical context of the Rose Quarter. The Historian Panel encouraged Portlanders to remember that the construction of the Veteran's Memorial Coliseum displaced a vibrant part of Portland's African American community and to acknowledge the service of U.S. Military Veterans.

In considering the street renaming proposal, the PSC heard a brief presentation from PBOT staff. The presentation and discussion concluded that North Winning Way is an appropriate street to rename in honor of Dr. Jack Ramsay, and that Dr. Jack Ramsay is of historical significance to Portland and more specifically the Rose Quarter that this street may be renamed in his honor.

Renaming a street offers the opportunity for a modern figure to become a part of the inherent structure of the city, acknowledge the impact this person had upon the City, and creates a history for the City. The PSC agrees that renaming North Winning Way to North Ramsay Way is appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration of our recommendation.

Sincerely,

Andre' Baugh
Chair
Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission



City of Portland, Oregon | Bureau of Planning and Sustainability | www.portlandoregon.gov/bps
1900 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 7100, Portland, OR 97201 | phone: 503-823-7700 | fax: 503-823-7800 | tty: 503-823-6868

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