

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE HONORARY
DESIGNATION OF A PORTION OF WEST WASHINGTON
STREET THROUGH THE CITY OF ORLANDO IN HONOR OF
ELIZABETH “BESSIE” COLEMAN AND ESTABLISHING AN
EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, Elizabeth “Bessie” Coleman was a resident of Orlando, Florida, at the time of her death in 1926; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Coleman was a pioneering African-American female aviator, having been the first licensed African-American pilot in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Coleman was the first American of any gender or ethnicity to earn an international pilot’s license; and

WHEREAS, during her time as an aviator, she was a popular “barnstorming” stunt pilot, performing to paid audiences prior to the era of commercial aviation; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Coleman died on April 30, 1926 at the age of 34, in an unfortunate accident doing what she loved in her aircraft prior to an airshow in Jacksonville, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Coleman broke barriers and made lasting contributions not only for women and minorities, but ushered in a new era for the entire world of aviation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council for the City of Orlando, Florida in regular session duly assembled, that said Council hereby supports the State’s effort to bestow an honorary designation to the portion of West Washington Street within the jurisdictional limits of the City of Orlando from North Hughey Avenue to North John Young Parkway, designated as the “Elizabeth “Bessie” Coleman Memorial Highway”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Florida Department of Transportation is hereby encouraged to erect suitable markers for the above-described designation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be delivered to State Senator Geraldine Thompson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

DONE AND RESOLVED by the City Council for the City of Orlando, Florida, on this ____ day of _____, 2014.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused these presents to be signed as of the date and year first above written.

CITY OF ORLANDO

By: _____
Mayor

ATTEST:

Alana C. Brenner, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY for the
use and reliance of the City of Orlando, Florida, only.
_____, 2014

Assistant City Attorney
Orlando, Florida

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF ORANGE

PERSONALLY APPEARED before me, the undersigned authority,
_____ and Alana C. Brenner, well known to me and known by me to
be Mayor _____ and City Clerk, respectively, of the City of Orlando, Florida, and
acknowledged before me that they executed the foregoing instrument on behalf of the City of
Orlando as its true act and deed, and that they were duly authorized to do so.

WITNESS MY hand and official seal this ____ day of _____, 2014.

Notary Public - State of Florida at Large
Print Name: _____
My commission expires: