

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, TO APPROVE THE HONORARY
STREET NAME CHANGE DESIGNATING M STREET
BETWEEN INYO AND VENTURA TO ALSO BE KNOWN
AS "AUDRA McDONALD WAY"

WHEREAS, Audra McDonald was born in West Berlin, Germany, to Anna and Stanley McDonald, Jr., where her father was stationed with the United States Army. Audra was raised in Fresno in a musical family and graduated from the Roosevelt School of the Arts program at Roosevelt High School; and

WHEREAS, Audra McDonald trained with legendary local director Dan Passano as a member of the Junior Company of the Good Company Players, and after graduating from high school, studied classical voice at the Julliard School in New York City; and

WHEREAS, one year after graduating from Julliard, Audra won her first Tony Award for Best Performance by a Featured Actress in a Musical for Carousel at Lincoln Center Theater. She received two additional Tony Awards in the featured actress category over the next four years for her performances in Master Class and Ragtime, for a total of three Tony Awards before the age of 30; and

WHEREAS, Audra McDonald continued her unprecedented Broadway success by winning her fourth Tony in A Raisin in the Sun, her fifth for her role in The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess, and made history by becoming Broadway's most decorated performer when she won her sixth Tony Award for her portrayal of Billie Holiday in Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill; and

1 of 3

Date Adopted:

Date Approved:

Effective Date:

City Attorney Approval:



Resolution No.

WHEREAS, Audra McDonald also made history by becoming the first performer to receive Tony Awards in all four major acting categories – Best Actress in a Play, Best Actress in a Musical, Best Featured Actress in a Play, and Best Featured Actress in a Musical. She has also won an Emmy Award, two Grammy Awards, and numerous other accolades for her brilliance in performance; and

WHEREAS, as one of America's most celebrated artists, Audra McDonald was inducted into the Lincoln Center's Hall of Fame as a member of its inaugural class, which included Louis Armstrong, Plácido Domingo, Yo-Yo Ma, Leontyne Price, and Harold Prince. She was awarded the National Medal of Arts by President Barack Obama, and in 2017, she was inducted into the American Theater Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her professional career where she has consistently defied racial stereotypes, Audra is a passionate advocate for equal rights and LGBTQ causes, and actively devotes her time and talents to spreading awareness about at-risk youth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Fresno as follows:

1. Approve the honorary street name change designating M Street between Inyo and Ventura to be also known as "Audra McDonald Way".
2. Council also designates May 26, 2018, as "Audra McDonald Day" in the City of Fresno.

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF FRESNO) ss.
CITY OF FRESNO)

I, YVONNE SPENCE, City Clerk of the City of Fresno, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Fresno, at a regular meeting held on the _____ day of _____ 2018.

AYES :
NOES :
ABSENT :
ABSTAIN :

Mayor Approval: _____, 2018
Mayor Approval/No Return: _____, 2018
Mayor Veto: _____, 2018
Council Override Vote: _____, 2018

YVONNE SPENCE, CRM MMC
City Clerk

By: _____
Deputy Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DOUGLAS T. SLOAN
City Attorney

By: _____
John W. Hastrup Date
Deputy