

CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

TWENTY FOURTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-20-14 ENACTMENT NO. R-2020-016

SPONSORED BY: Benton, Peña, Borrego

1 RESOLUTION

2 RENAMING BRIDGE BOULEVARD WITHIN THE ALBUQUERQUE CITY LIMITS,
3 FROM 4TH STREET SW TO THE WEST SIDE OF THE RIO GRANDE RIVER,
4 AVENIDA DOLORES HUERTA.

5 WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta is a co-founder with Cesar Chavez of the
6 National Farmworkers Association, which later became the United Farm
7 Workers (UFW); and

8 WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta was born into a Mexican immigrant family on
9 April 10th, 1930 in the Mining Town of Dawson, New Mexico to Juan Fernández
10 and Alicia Chavez; and

11 WHEREAS, Dolores as a young girl witnessed the importance of social
12 action and pursuing labor rights. Both of her grandfathers worked as miners
13 in Dawson, and her uncle perished in one of two mine explosions in Dawson
14 that killed over 350 miners. Dolores's father worked as a miner, farm worker,
15 union activist, and served as a New Mexico State Legislator. In Stockton
16 California when Dolores was 10, her mother helped organize a cannery strike
17 and instilled in Dolores a passion for community and civic engagement; and

18 WHEREAS, Dolores's activism began when she was a student and
19 experienced racial biases first-hand, leading her to pioneering civil rights
20 movements in later years, including co-founding the United Farm Workers,
21 becoming a leader in organizing the 1965 Delano Grape Strike and negotiating
22 the groundbreaking workers' contract that resulted from the strike. In the
23 1970's she coordinated a national lettuce boycott and worked to pass the 1975
24 Agricultural Relations Act, the first law to institute the rights of farm workers
25 to bargain collectively; and

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1 WHEREAS, a phrase Dolores coined, “*Sí se puede*” (Yes, we can), had
2 two lives — as a rallying cry in the ’60s for Latino workers seeking basic
3 rights, and as the galvanizing political slogan, translated into English, that
4 aided the 2008 election of the first black president of the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, Bridge Boulevard historically was an east west river crossing
6 that connected west Central Avenue to Yale Boulevard. In 1996 the section of
7 Bridge Boulevard from 4th Street to Yale was renamed Avenida Cesar Chavez,
8 in honor of Dolores’s fellow co-founder of the United Farm Workers Union;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, renaming segments of Bridge Boulevard after Dolores Huerta
11 honors the life and work of Dolores Huerta in conjunction with that of Cesar
12 Chavez and creates a permanent public reminder of the gains in human
13 dignity achieved for the members of the United Farm Workers through the
14 work of the Union; and

15 WHEREAS, Bernalillo County completed the public process for changing
16 the name of Bridge Boulevard to Avenida Dolores Huerta, without public
17 opposition, and the County Commission approved a resolution renaming the
18 portion of Bridge Boulevard in the unincorporated County, from the Rio
19 Grande to Isleta Boulevard, Avenida Dolores Huerta; and

20 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque per City Ordinance §6-5-14 can
21 commence the public process to change a street name upon application by
22 any person; and

23 WHEREAS, the non-profit organization Las Mujeres Inc. submitted a
24 request to the City Engineer to change the name of Bridge Boulevard to
25 Avenida Dolores Huerta from 4th Street west to the County line, where Bridge
26 Boulevard has already been renamed Avenida Dolores Huerta; and

27 WHEREAS, in November 2019 the City of Albuquerque Planning
28 Department sent notice of the request to adjacent property owners, interested
29 City Departments, and other agencies including private utilities and the US
30 Postal Service and received no comments or objections to the request.

31 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF
32 ALBUQUERQUE:

1 Section 1. In recognition of Dolores Huerta’s contributions to social
2 justice and human rights, Bridge Boulevard from 4th Street SW to the west side
3 of the Rio Grande river is hereby renamed Avenida Dolores Huerta.

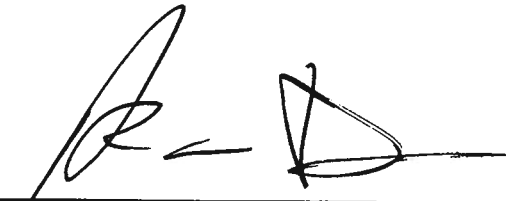
4 Section 2. The Administration is hereby directed to install new street
5 signs reflecting this renaming prior to the Cesar Chavez March and Fiesta on
6 March 28, 2020.

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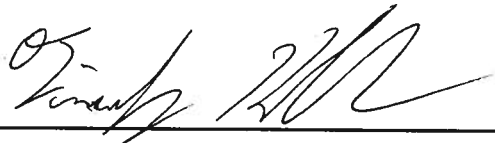
1 PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd DAY OF February, 2020
2 BY A VOTE OF: 8 FOR 0 AGAINST.

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9 Patrick Davis, President
10 City Council

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14 APPROVED THIS 6 DAY OF June, 2020

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16 Bill No. R-20-14

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21 Timothy M. Keller, Mayor
22 City of Albuquerque

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26 ATTEST:

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29 Ethan Watson, Acting City Clerk
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