

Policy Briefing Summary

City Council



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| Regarding: | Approving a resolution authorizing the acceptance and installation of a city-sponsored commemorative display recognizing the 100th Anniversary of Jefferson High School |
| Staff Contact(s): | Steven King, Assistant to the City Manager, Samuel Sanders, Jr., City Manager |
| Presenter: | Steven King, Assistant to the City Manager |
| Date of Proposed Action: | January 5, 2026 |

Issue

The City has been asked to support the recognition of the Jefferson School's 100th Anniversary through the acceptance and installation of commemorative banners to be placed along West Main Street and McIntire Road as a tribute to generations of Black excellence. The Jefferson School African American Heritage Center has proposed a series of banners featuring historic photographs of former students of Jefferson High School to commemorate the school's centennial anniversary. The City has determined that City-owned streetlight poles are not generally available for the posting of private signage, banners, or displays, and that their use does not constitute a public forum.

Background / Rule

The City has supported the preservation of the Jefferson School's place in Charlottesville's history through a variety of actions, including direct support for the establishment of the Jefferson School City Center with additional support for the Jefferson School Foundation and Jefferson School African American Heritage Center. This celebration of the legacy of the Jefferson School aligns with the City Council's vision to be a place where everyone thrives and support for culture and heritage efforts are relative to that desire.

Analysis

The City Council may, on a limited and case-by-case basis, authorize the use of City property for artwork or commemorative displays selected by the City Council to express the City's own message.

Financial Impact

The financial impact is an inkind contribution by Public Service staff for the installation, maintenance, and take down of the yearlong display.

Recommendation

Resolution approval

Recommended Motion (if Applicable)

I move approval of the RESOLUTION authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for acceptance and installation of a city-sponsored commemorative display recognizing the 100th Anniversary of Jefferson High School.

Attachments

1. Revised Jefferson School Banners Resolution
2. JSAAHC100th anniv spec sheet

3. Non-Profit Centennial Flag Sponsorship Package