

WHEREAS, on occasion, the Memphis City Council sees fit to honor those who have contributed to the Memphis community, and **James Arthur Bridges, Sr.** is certainly worthy of celebration; and

WHEREAS, **James Arthur Bridges, Sr.** was born on January 10, 1935, in Memphis, Tennessee; after graduating from Booker T. Washington High School, he enlisted in the United States Air Force, serving his country for four years from 1954 to 1959 as an Air Force policeman stationed in Alaska; after his honorable discharge, he continued serving in the Reserves until June 1965; and

WHEREAS, **James A. Bridges, Sr.** met and married his wife, Doris Wrushen Bridges, in 1961, and they have two children, James, Jr. and Marjorie; their family has grown to include nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, after spending time in the Air Force and attending colleges that included LeMoyne, University of Tennessee, and Memphis State University, **James A. Bridges, Sr.** was able to leverage his education, military and work experience, and business acumen to become an entrepreneur; and

WHEREAS, **James A. Bridges, Sr.** was sole proprietor of Bridges Concessions from 1965 to 1970, serving Booker T. Washington, Melrose, and Crump Stadiums; he studied real estate at the University of Tennessee and became a real estate investor; **Mr. Bridges** also owned Bridges Sales and Service, where he became the first African American to own a Carrier air conditioner dealership from 1968 to 1974; currently, he is co-owner of BTW Transportation in Memphis, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, **James A. Bridges, Sr.** spent many of his years working in roles that ranged from maintenance coordinator, material handler/retail clerk, supervisor, teacher, instructor and Sergeant; over the course of his career, he served many companies well, such as Velsicol Chemical, International Harvester, Memphis City Schools, and Shelby County Correction Center; his impact was and continues to be felt by employees and students he interacted with and led; and

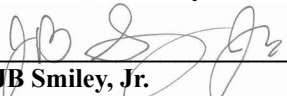
WHEREAS, **James A. Bridges, Sr.** humbly established himself as a pillar in the community by serving, leading, and consistently helping others; decades ago, he held memberships with the National Business League, the Masonic Lodge, Prince Hall Affiliated, and served as an advisor for Junior Achievement, and was a member of the Memphis State University Campus PTA; **Mr. Bridges** remains an active member of the NAACP and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; as a faithful Christian, he has served his church, the historic First Baptist Lauderdale, holding membership there since 1962 and recently being recognized as a Deacon Emeritus.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Memphis City Council honors **James A. Bridges, Sr.** for his outstanding contributions to the Memphis community, and that the section of Bullington Avenue from South Parkway East to Taylor Street shall be designated and always remembered as

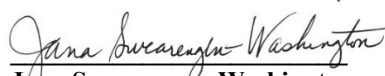
James A. Bridges, Sr. Avenue

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Engineer is requested to affix suitable signs so designating such public road.

ADOPTED: May 12, 2026



JB Smiley, Jr.
Memphis City Council
Super District 8-1



Jana Swearingen-Washington
Memphis City Council
Chairwoman, District 4