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1-9-24

**Gloria Sitton**

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**From:** Clayton Wirtz <clayton@thewirtzs.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 08, 2024 10:44 PM  
**To:** CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Resident Comments for Alexandria City Council Naming Committee Re: North Early Street

You don't often get email from clayton@thewirtzs.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Naming Committee Members,

My name is Clayton Wirtz. My story in Alexandria began in 2002 when I bought my first home on North Early St. After searching for nearly six months, I finally found the perfect property in the Spring of 2002. I signed the paperwork that day to make it my home. Little did I know that this decision would begin a nearly quarter-century adventure. One that saw me marry and start a family. One that saw me embark on a decade-plus-long remodel with my soon-to-be wife by my side. A remodel done primarily with our own hands.

My wife and I made countless trips to City Hall to submit drawings of our hopeful North Early family home. We still have nearly all of these documents, including the special exemption application (BZA CASE #2006-0007 on April 13, 2005), the building permit receipts (from June 20, 2006), and most importantly, the final building approval on Aug 31, 2016. In all, we have had more than 150 inspections and dozens and dozens of inspector signatures on all these plans, schematics, and drawings... all with our North Early Street address on them.

We have made lifelong friends in this neighborhood. We have shared the joy of the birth of neighbors' children and our own two daughters, mourned the loss of a few dear neighbors and a defacto neighborhood matriarch, and witnessed our community bond tighten during extreme weather events (e.g., communal shoveling during blizzards, extreme extension cord generating sharing during the Derecho, and more). This neighborhood history, my own documents, and all of these memories are with and of our family and friends on North Early Street. They are not tied to some long forgotten namesake. That is why we request our street be rededicated and retain its current name to allow our memories and keepsakes to remain tied to our address and to bring a new meaning and a new meaning or namesake to our continuing story on North Early Street.

Respectfully,

Clayton Wirtz  
125 North Early Street  
Alexandria, VA 22304

November 6, 2023

Re: Renaming of North and South Early Street, Alexandria, VA 22304

To Whom It May Concern:

I beg to oppose the renaming of Early Street for the following reasons:

I have lived here at North Early Street for almost 4 decades and upon moving here, only then did I feel at rest. I felt at home. It is endearing to recall those days with my kids growing up. They would love to frolic, jump, skip and play under the bright *early* morning sunshine that enshrouded North Early Street. The folks here are peaceful, tending to their homey chores, strolling and walking their toddlers and/or pet dogs *early* in the morning--and through the day. So, Early Street connotes peace, close family ties and good neighbors. It is nostalgic: it does not need to be renamed.

Besides, a name change to Early Street would just be more confusing to our longtime friends and families—from far and near. I believe that the name Early Street has earned a good reputable meaning now—a changed meaning different from that of the “old”. So, I entreat you: please do not rename Early Street.

May I offer an alternative plan. My humble suggestion to honor our heroes is to build a park, “Our Heroes Park”. Display statuettes of our heroes with captions of their foremost contributions in a beautiful and attractive park. This will give a more concrete picture to the viewers and visitors. School classes and student groups can make field trips to the park. They will enjoy the activity in open space, and it will be more conducive to learning and getting to know their heroes! With fun.

With my sincere thank you.

Lilia Butler  
Early Street Resident since 1984

P.S.—Your honor—this is a 15 year project. You can do it!

**From:** kipusscat@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 09, 2024 11:16 AM  
**To:** Gloria Sitton; CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov  
**Cc:** Tanya Schweider  
**Subject:** Re: Resident Comments for Alexandria City Council Naming Committee Re: North Early Street

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Dear Naming Committee Members,

My name is Tanya Schweider-Bingham and my husband, daughter and I live at 124 N. Early St (off of Duke Street). I am a 1988 graduate of TC Williams and I purchased my home on N. Early St 31 years ago in 1993. My mother, purchased her home at 150 N. Early St in 1991 and she still resides on N. Early street as well.

In addition to my family and I, approximately half of the residents have lived on N. Early St for 20 to 50+ years. Many of us have raised our children on N. Early St and our children know no other home than their home on N. Early St. We contribute to the community through charity and other services, such as volunteering at the Carpenter Shelter, Christ House, Animal Shelter, and other community venues. So, we are proud to call N. Early St in Alexandria our home and we treasure our neighborhood and sense of community that we have shared with our N. Early St neighbors for so many decades.

Moreover, many of the elderly residents are on fixed incomes and the other residents all work full time. So the to spend countless hours and taking time off from work/volunteering to change decades worth of documentation and potentially incur expenses associated with an address change is unnecessary when a more amicable solution to renaming the street is available. Furthermore, many of the elderly/disabled residents will face additional challenges associated with a street name change. We therefore hope that the Street Naming Committee will honor our wishes to **rededicate** the street name and NOT change the name of our street.

Let it be understood that no one is negating the fact that honoring those who contributed to slavery is atrocious. Furthermore, no one on N. Early Street has ever associated N. Early St with Jubal Early. We have always referred to N. Early Street as "Early" in the morning.

Therefore, we are proposing that the Street Naming Committee keep the street name of N. Early St. But rededicate the street name in order to do away with any reference to Jubal Early. By rededicating the street name, the city would not need to spend precious taxpayer money on new street signs and instead, this money could go

towards other programs that are much more important for the community. Moreover, the longtime residents could continue to call the street where they have raised their children and forged so many wonderful memories "N. Early St".

With that said, we recommend that N. Early Street be rededicated as "Early in the morning".

However, if the city insists on dedicating the street to noteworthy individual, then please consider dedicating the street to James Early. James Early (now deceased) was an American electrical engineer who developed the transistors for America's first commercial communications satellite, the Telestar. The "Early Effect" in bipolar junction transistors is named after James Early. Rededication of the street's name to James Early will not require a name change.

## Gloria Sitton

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**From:** krllloyd64@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 09, 2024 12:27 PM  
**To:** Justin Wilson; Amy Jackson; John Chapman; alyia.gaskins@gmail.com; Sarah Bagley; Canek Aguirre; Kirk McPike  
**Cc:** Gloria Sitton; KATHRYN LLOYD  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]01/09/24 Legislative Docket Item #20 - North Early Street

You don't often get email from krllloyd64@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Naming Committee and City Council,

My name is Kathy Lloyd, and I was born, raised and reside on North Early Street with my son who is now third generation. At the time my parents purchased our home on North Early Street in 1958, my father was working for the Alexandria Fire Department. At that time, AFD required personnel to live in the city. My mother worked at Alexandria Hospital, and they started a family struggling to make ends meet. They both retired from Alexandria continuing to serve and give back to the community for decades. Whether it was for the city, Immanuel Church on the Hill or our friend's considered family on North Early Street.

Over these many decades, our North Early street neighborhood has always been a close community. Lifelong friends that are family. Always willing to help each other, being there for the children, our pets, taking care of our elderly, greeting new neighbors and forever friends with neighbors that have moved on. Over the years we have also mourned the loss of so many, including my parents that lived on North Early until their passing. All these wonderful people will always belong to North Early Street, as in Early in the morning. This is a cherished legacy my son has witnessed.

In clarifying our street name, we have always said Early, as in 'Early in the morning.' All our years living here the other name was never mentioned, nor was I aware. We would never refer to North Early other than 'Early in the Morning.'

These are the many reasons we request our street be rededicated and retain its current name 'North Early' to allow our memories and keepsakes to remain tied to our street name. Please consider bringing a new meaning to our namesake, to our continuing story on North Early Street.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Lloyd and son David Stayanoff

109 North Early Street

Alexandria VA 22304

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