



TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL

Town Hall
405 Martin Luther King Jr.
Boulevard
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Legislation Text

File #: [22-0277], Version: 1

Consider Renaming the Chapel Hill Transit Facility in Honor of Mayor Howard Lee and Lillian Lee.

Staff:

Brian Litchfield, Director
Susan Brown, Director

Department:

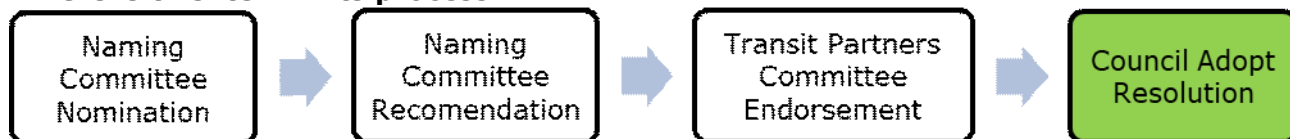
Transit
Library

Overview: During his tenure as Chapel Hill mayor, Howard Lee established the town's public transit system. Mayor Lee, along with his wife, Lillian Lee have improved the lives of people throughout Chapel Hill and the state of North Carolina through their dedication to education, social justice, civil rights, and public service. The Council Naming Committee recommends that the Chapel Hill Transit Facility be named in their honor.

**Recommendation(s):**

That the Council authorize the Town Manager to proceed with renaming the Chapel Hill Transit Facility, in coordination with the Transit Partners Committee, in honor of Mayor Howard Lee and Lillian Lee.

Fiscal Impact/Resources: Re-signing the Transit Facility and any attendant costs, are to be determined.

Where is this item in its process?**Attachments:**

- Resolution

A RESOLUTION RENAMING THE CHAPEL HILL TRANSIT FACILITY IN HONOR OF MAYOR HOWARD LEE AND LILLIAN LEE (2022-04-06/R-7)

WHEREAS, in May 1969 Howard Nathaniel Lee was elected to the position of Mayor of Chapel Hill, making him the first African American person elected in a predominantly white southern city; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Lee served as mayor for a period of six years during which he built a strong, interactive relationship between the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Town; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Mayor Lee established the town's public transit system, using partnerships, creativity and used buses from the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority. The system that started with eight (8) routes, now has 23 routes, is a model for fare-free transit service and service delivery methods that improve mobility and access, provides strategic leadership in advancing technological innovations that can reduce emissions and is the 2nd largest transit system in the state of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the transit system created by Mayor Lee continues to help the Town of Chapel Hill, Town of Carrboro and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to meet their transportation, sustainability and equity goals; and

WHEREAS, Howard Lee's work with the University led to the strong partnership that has allowed the system to continue to develop and grow over the decades into a system that supports local and regional transit services; and

WHEREAS, Lillian Lee has dedicated herself to improving the lives of Chapel Hill's children by establishing the children's school at Memorial Hospital and serving as a counselor and administrator in the Chapel Hill/Carrboro school system; and

WHEREAS, Howard and Lillian Lee's passion for education, social justice, civil rights, and public service have had a profound impact on the Chapel Hill community and the state of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Chapel Hill Transit will celebrate 50 years of service in 2024; and

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2022, the Council Naming Committee recommended honoring Howard and Lillian Lee for their lifelong contributions to Chapel Hill and North Carolina by renaming the Transit Facility in their honor, consistent with the Town of Chapel Hill's Naming Public Facilities Policy within the [Council Procedures Manual <https://www.townofchapelhill.org/government/mayor-and-council/mayor-council/council-procedures-manual>](https://www.townofchapelhill.org/government/mayor-and-council/mayor-council/council-procedures-manual); and

WHEREAS, the Chapel Hill Public Transit Committee has endorsed this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Chapel Hill that the Council authorize the Town Manager to proceed with renaming the Chapel Hill Transit Facility, in coordination with the Transit Partners Committee, in honor of Mayor Howard Lee and Lillian Lee.

This the 6th day of April 2022.

The Agenda will reflect the text below and/or the motion text will be used during the meeting.

PRESENTER: Brian Litchfield, Transit Director
Susan Brown, Library Director

RECOMMENDATION: That the Council authorizes the Town Manager to proceed with renaming the Chapel Hill Transit Facility, in coordination with the Transit Partners Committee, in honor of Mayor Howard Lee and Lillian Lee.