



City of Philadelphia

City Council
Chief Clerk's Office
402 City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107

RESOLUTION NO. 260218

Introduced March 12, 2026

Councilmember Gauthier

RESOLUTION

Also naming the 6200 Block of Osage Avenue “Gerald Wayne Renfrow Way” to honor the life, leadership, and enduring legacy of Gerald Wayne Renfrow in the Osage Avenue and Pine Street community.

WHEREAS, Gerald Wayne Renfrow was a longtime resident of the 6200 Block of Osage Avenue and served as Block Captain for more than 35 years, earning the respect of neighbors as the steadfast guardian and advocate of his community; and

WHEREAS, Gerald Renfrow courageously led his community through the aftermath of the May 13, 1985 MOVE bombing, one of the darkest chapters in Philadelphia’s history, which destroyed two full city blocks and displaced dozens of families, including his own; and

WHEREAS, Upon discovering severe construction failures in the rebuilt homes of the community—including faulty wiring, dangerous plumbing, and structural defects—Gerald took decisive action, calling upon the Army Corps of Engineers, exposing code violations, and holding the City accountable through sustained advocacy and legal action; and

WHEREAS, A former police officer, roofing business owner, husband, father, and man of deep faith, Gerald served as a leader of the Osage Avenue/Pine Street Neighborhood Association and tirelessly lobbied multiple mayoral administrations to ensure the full and proper redevelopment of abandoned homes on his block; and

WHEREAS, His persistence ultimately contributed to the 2017 redevelopment of 36 abandoned homes, which now stand restored as living proof of his determination, vigilance, and unwavering love for his community; and

WHEREAS, Renaming the 6200 Block of Osage Avenue in his honor would not only commemorate his extraordinary personal leadership, but also symbolize the City of

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 260218 continued

Philadelphia's recognition of community resilience and its commitment to remembering and learning from its history; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That the 6200 Block of Osage Avenue also be named "Gerald Wayne Renfrow Way" to honor his life, his decades of service, and his lasting contributions to the Osage Avenue and Pine Street community.