



City of Philadelphia

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

RESOLUTION NO. 260314

Introduced April 9, 2026

Councilmember Lozada

RESOLUTION

Renaming the 400 Block of West Lehigh Avenue to “Wilfredo Gonzalez Way” in recognition of Wilfredo Gonzalez’s lifelong contributions to the Latin-American community, devoted service to his country, and commitment to cultural empowerment in Philadelphia.

WHEREAS, Wilfredo Gonzalez, born in Puerto Rico and raised in Philadelphia, distinguished himself as the longtime president and owner of Centro Musical, Inc., a cornerstone business serving the Hispanic community for more than fifty years; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from Edison High School with a diploma and a certification in automobile engineering, Mr. Gonzalez honorably served in the United States Army and is recognized as a Vietnam War Veteran; and

WHEREAS, A man of deep faith, Wilfredo Gonzalez was a devoted member of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Church in New Jersey and demonstrated a lifelong commitment to service through leadership roles as president of the Jorge Bird Lions Club, founding member of the Pan American Lions Club, and active participation with the Latin American Legion Post 840 and Congreso de Latinos Unidos; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gonzalez passionately advocated for the Hispanic community, supporting organizations including Artistas y Músicos Latinoamericanos (AMLA), ASPIRA, Taller Puertorriqueño, and the 5th Street Merchants Association, while also promoting cultural representation through local media and organizing events like the Desfile del Pueblo in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Following Hurricane María, he coordinated relief efforts for those affected in Puerto Rico and earned recognition for his service from organizations including the Jorge Bird and Pan American Lions Clubs, the American Red Cross, and Congreso de Latinos Unidos; and

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WHEREAS, In 1996, Mr. Gonzalez was named Merchant of the Year and further strengthened community ties by collaborating with musical groups to record albums; and

WHEREAS, Wilfredo Gonzalez enjoyed 57 years of marriage and was a devoted father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, cherishing family time and finding joy in gardening, traveling, and amateur photography; and

WHEREAS, Born on May 6, 1946, and passing on March 31, 2026, Wilfredo Gonzalez will be remembered as a loving and selfless individual who consistently put others before himself, dedicating his life to the service of his family, community, and country, and continuing to advocate for fellow veterans even in his final days; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Hereby renames the 400 Block of West Lehigh Avenue to “Wilfredo Gonzalez Way” in recognition of his enduring contributions to the Latin-American community, devoted service to his country, and lifelong commitment to cultural empowerment in Philadelphia.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this Resolution be presented to the family of Wilfredo Gonzalez as an expression of the sincere admiration and heartfelt gratitude of this legislative body.