



Consideration of Renaming Robert E. Lee Street (Ordinance S-46949)

Request to formally consider renaming Robert E. Lee Street in accordance with the city's Street Naming Policy that allows City Council members to request a change to a recorded street name when it is considered derogatory or offensive based on City Code Section 18-1. Staff requests approval to change the name of Robert E. Lee Street, as well as approval of the proposed new street name selection process outlined in this report, and of the proposed cost reimbursement policy for impacted residents, businesses and property owners outlined in this report. Further request authorization for the City Controller to disburse all funds related to this item.

Summary

In accordance with the City of Phoenix Street Naming Process approved by the City Council on June 27, 2017 (**Attachment A**), the City Council on July 1, 2020 voted to direct staff to begin the process to consider renaming of Robert E. Lee Street. The Street Naming Process requires conducting two community meetings, which the July 1, 2020 action authorized to be done virtually due to the pandemic. The process also requires a technical review process of proposed new names to ensure conformity to adopted street naming criteria. The Council approved process requires that within 90 days of the request an item be placed on a Council agenda to decide on the proposed street renaming. This report contains detailed information on public input, the technical review of proposed alternate names, a proposed process for additional involvement by Robert E. Lee Street property owners in the selection of a new street name, and a detailed plan to assist residents to update their addresses, including an outline of the cost reimbursement process, should the Council approve renaming of the street.

Public Input

On July 1, 2020 , the Council approved the initiation of the process for consideration of renaming of Robert E. Lee Street. That Council action included a temporary process revision to allow the two required community meetings to be conducted virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As stated in the July 1, 2020 Council-approved action: "The current process as approved by Council requires two public meetings to be conducted in the vicinity of each of the streets proposed for renaming. However, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, staff requests as part of this action Council approval to revise the process to allow virtual public meetings to obtain public input from the affected

neighbors and community.” Staff conducted two web forums to discuss the proposed renaming of Robert E. Lee Street and obtain community input. Residents were able to participate online or use their phones, including traditional landline telephones, which is similar to public participation at Council meetings during the pandemic. Residents and property owners of Robert E. Lee Street were notified of the opportunity to participate in the meetings through certified mailings, as well as multiple signs placed at various locations along the street. The live community web forums were held on July 28 and Aug. 3, 2020.

The community was also notified of the opportunity to provide input in other ways the City made available. These included:

- Telephone to directly speak with staff
- Comment form on dedicated street renaming webpage:
www.phoenix.gov/street-renaming <<http://www.phoenix.gov/street-renaming>>
- Postal mail

In all, 121 people participated in the community forums. In addition to the spoken comments, there were 45 submitted written comments related to the proposed Robert E. Lee Street renaming. Also, to accommodate a request by residents who stated they were not comfortable meeting on the web forums, staff held a socially distanced, mask -required, in-person meeting with a group of 10 Robert E. Lee Street residents in the Paradise Valley Community Center Multipurpose Room on Aug. 10.

For all comments submitted, either in writing or through a forum, slightly more people favored renaming the street. For comments from people that indicated they lived on or immediately adjacent to Robert E. Lee Street, slightly more indicated they opposed renaming than supported it.

Attachment B includes all the public input gathered at the web forums, including the attendees’ positions on renaming, and a compilation of all comments submitted via email, web comment form, telephone and in writing. Comments from people who indicated they lived on or immediately adjacent (within one block) to the street are listed first and highlighted in yellow on all the meeting and comment spreadsheets.

Proposed Names

During the public comment process participants proposed more than 80 alternative names for Robert E. Lee Street. City staff performed a technical review of all the proposed names to determine which ones met the criteria outlined in the Maricopa Association of Governments Address and Street Assignment Policy Manual. The proposed names that met the established criteria are listed in **Attachment C**.

The criteria used to assess alternate name proposals first examines availability. If the proposed name is already in use on a street elsewhere in the greater Phoenix area, then it is determined to be not eligible; 41 proposed street names were excluded because of non-availability. This standard excludes those names to avoid adding to the list of duplicate street names and increasing the potential for confusion in emergency calls for Fire or Police services. Staff must also examine street names that may be overly difficult to pronounce or spell; no proposed street names for Robert E. Lee Street were excluded due to this standard. This standard is also related to avoiding confusion for emergency dispatchers and first responders in critical life-safety situations. Lastly, if a name was submitted that was considered obscene or referred to illegal/controlled substances, it was excluded; five submitted names were excluded for this reason.

Proposed Process for Selection of New Street Name

The proposed new street names listed in **Attachment C** were proposed both by residents living on and adjacent to Robert E. Lee St. and by members of the broader community. Several of the Robert E. Lee St. residents/owners indicated a desire to make the decision or at least have a larger say in the selection of the new street name by being allowed to vote on the new name. Because by ordinance the City Council must take action to vote on the new name, any vote by property owners would be an advisory recommendation to the City Council who would then make the final decision.

In responding to the request from residents, staff proposes the following process for selection of the new street name, if the City Council approves renaming the street:

- The City would conduct a process to allow property owners along Robert E. Lee Street to provide an advisory vote to the City Council for the new name of the street. The City Council would still be required to take the final action on an ordinance to change the name of the street.
- Certified letters would be mailed to property owners of Robert E. Lee Street with a survey containing the list of eligible proposed names that met the City criteria. Each letter would include a unique code that would allow the survey to be returned by mail or be submitted online.
- The survey would use a weighted ranking form of tabulation that would require residents to rank their top five name choices in their order of preference.
- A top-ranked choice would earn the highest numerical value with second, third and later ranked choices yielding correspondingly lower values.
- These ranking values would be totaled at the end of the vote to show the aggregate preference among property owners along Robert E. Lee Street.
- To ensure adequate time is provided, staff estimates this process may take

approximately six weeks before returning to the Council for final action on the new street name.

- The results of the vote would be provided to the City Council at a future meeting along with a request to approve a new street name, along with an effective date.
- Staff will recommend that the effective date of the new name not occur before Jan. 11, 2021 to ensure sufficient time for residents, property owners and the City to make necessary changes.

Street Background

Robert E. Lee Street has 131 individual parcels that consists of 88 single-family residential, 29 town homes, two four-unit apartment buildings (eight total units), one charter school (on a residentially zoned parcel) and 11 HOA-owned common-area tracts. The street runs east to west from 52nd Street to State Route 51 with Union Hills Drive the major cross street to the north and Grovers Avenue the major cross street to the south. There is a small non-contiguous section of the street just east of Cave Creek Road (**Attachment D**).

The parcels that make up the current-day street were developed in stages over a 38-year period from 1954 until 1992 (**Attachment E**). The street was unincorporated Maricopa County land until 1988, when it was annexed into the City of Phoenix, as the annotations in **Attachment E** show. Three stretches of the road were dedicated as Lee Street in 1954, 1958 and 1960. Sometime between 1960 and 1961, Maricopa County changed the name to Robert E. Lee Street, which appeared for the first time as a recorded street name in 1961 (**Attachment E, page 4**). All street dedications made after that date were as Robert E. Lee Street.

Costs

The Street Transportation Department (Streets) estimates it will cost the City approximately \$3,200 to fabricate and install new signs on Robert E. Lee Street, which will come from funds available in Streets' current fiscal year budget.

The Street Renaming Policy also stipulates that the City cover residents documented direct costs to update their address on personal documents and records, which staff estimates could be approximately \$150 per address. Households are likely to have multiple residents that are impacted, which the estimate intends to account for. Homes that use their address for a registered business also may experience additional costs that exceed a typical residence.

An accurate estimate of resident/owner costs is difficult because in some instances residents have discretion on which documents to replace. For example, banks

contacted by the City have explained that checks with the prior address can still be used as long as the account and routing numbers are the same. Residents can continue to use those checks as is, or simply handwrite in a corrected street name until they exhaust their existing supply. Also, the state Motor Vehicle Services Department (MVD) does not require driver's licenses to be replaced for an address change; the address only needs to be updated in the agency's system within ten days at no cost. However, many people use their driver's license as a form of identification that shows their current address. If a resident chooses to replace their driver's license, per the process outlined below, the City will reimburse the cost to replace it, which is currently \$12.

In some cases, both a property owner who leases their property and tenants will be impacted. Based on the most recent Maricopa County property records available, 27 properties are owned by people with different mailing addresses, which likely indicates properties that are occupied by renters. Should all properties and tenants incur costs at the high end of the estimate, combined costs would be approximately \$24,000. Based on Council approval, the funding will be allocated to the Planning and Development Department budget to cover the reimbursement cost.

Proposed Cost Reimbursement Policy

Staff proposes the following policy to reimburse expenses for impacted Robert E. Lee Street residents and property owners:

- Property or business owners located on, or any individuals who live on, Robert E. Lee Street as of the effective date of the change are eligible to be reimbursed by the City for any costs directly associated with address changes related to renaming Robert E. Lee Street. The reimbursement will not include any cost for time spent making changes.
- City staff will be available to assist residents with any changes, as needed.
- As outlined later in this report, there are also several changes and notifications which the City is making on behalf of residents to reduce the time spent by impacted individuals.
- For reimbursement, affected individuals will need to complete a simple City request form along with receipts or other documentation to the City.
- The forms will be available in paper form for those who prefer to mail hard copies, as well as web forms, through which they can attach scanned receipts and submit reimbursement requests electronically.
- The City standard will be for residents to be reimbursed for eligible costs within three weeks of the City receiving the request.
- There is no time limit for impacted residents to submit for or receive reimbursement of eligible costs.

- There is also no limit to the number of times an impacted resident can submit for and receive reimbursement if all reimbursements are for different eligible costs.

The Planning and Development Department (PDD) will work with the Finance Department to process reimbursements. If for any reason a resident or property owner is denied reimbursement, the decision may be appealed to the City Manager representative within the Planning and Development Department. Staff has created a working draft of a form that residents would use to request reimbursement (**Attachment F**). When finalized, this will be adapted as an online form for those residents that wish to submit request forms and receipts electronically.

City Staff Updating Responsibilities

Should the Council approve a new street name, city staff will send official notification of the name change to an extensive list of agencies so they can update customer addresses in their respective systems. City staff is currently in communication with the Maricopa County Recorder's Office, which will work with the City to record a street name change notification for purposes of deed, deed of trust and voter registration records for impacted residents and property owners. PDD staff will formally notify these City departments: Police, Fire, City Clerk, Finance, Law, Neighborhood Services, Street Transportation, and Water Services. PDD staff also will complete an important notification to the United States Postal Service (USPS). At staff request, the USPS will create a "change alias" in their computer system that ties any new street name for each property to the old street name. Thus, any mail addressed using an old street name will automatically be re-routed to the address with the new name. These change aliases do not expire and will ensure mail sent through USPS will be re-routed indefinitely. All property address numbers will remain unchanged.

Planning and Development Department staff will also send official street name change notifications to the Maricopa County Assessor's Office, Arizona Public Service, Salt River Project, Southwest Gas, Cox Communications, CenturyLink, Federal Express, United Parcel Service (UPS), as well as private mapping services including Google, Bing, Yahoo, MapQuest and Wide World of Maps.

If the Council approves renaming Robert E. Lee Street, staff will send via certified mail a third set of documents to residents and property owners that includes a formal letter of approval, a copy of the recorded ordinance, and a completed address change notification. Residents can keep these documents in their records should they need to document or show proof of the street name change for any reason in the future.

Resident Assistance

Phoenix Public Library staff will continue to be available to directly assist impacted residents. Staff researched address update processes for multiple agencies to assist residential property owners, rental residents and business owners. Library staff created quick reference lists, complete with hyperlinks, on the street renaming webpage for updating addresses with the MVD, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Maricopa County Recorder - Voter Registration and Property Deed/Title, the Social Security Administration and Department of Veterans Affairs. The online guide also has suggestions for updating addresses with insurance companies; cell phone providers; employers; banks, credit reporting bureaus and other financial institutions; schools and childcare providers and online shopping sites. The resource guide for business owners includes quick reference address update links for the IRS, Arizona Department of Revenue, Arizona Secretary of State, Arizona Corporation Commission and business credit reporting agencies. It adds suggestions for updating addresses with customers; banks and other financial institutions; and on websites, social media and other online local search tools. Residents that need or prefer live assistance can speak by phone to Library staff during normal library hours.

Timing of Change

If the City Council approves a new name at the Sept. 16 Formal Meeting, staff recommends that the effective date of a new street name be no earlier than Jan. 11, 2021. This will ensure sufficient time to process changes and avoid any address uncertainty during the upcoming election and holidays.

Financial Impact

The Street Transportation Department estimates a total cost of \$3,200 to fabricate and install new signs on Robert E. Lee Street; the department will use existing fiscal year budgeted funds to cover this cost. Staff estimates approximately \$24,000 is needed to cover costs to reimburse residents and property owners for direct expenses incurred related to changing their address. These funds will be allocated to the Planning and Development Department from the General Fund.

Location

Robert E. Lee Street
Council District: 2

Responsible Departments

This item is submitted by Deputy City Manager Mario Paniagua; the Planning and Development, Street Transportation, Finance, and Budget and Research departments; and the Phoenix Public Library.



Background

1. Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) Address and Street Name Assignment Policy states that a “newly developed street will assume the name of the street on which it aligns.”
2. North/South streets are typically numbered (per the established grid system).
3. All numbered streets west of Central Avenue use Avenue, Drive, Lane, Glen and Dale in that order as the specifically numbered street is located further west.
4. All numbered streets east of Central Avenue use Street, Place, Way, Terrace and Run in that order as the specifically numbered street is located further east.
5. East/West, angled or loop right of way have a name assigned that is in the same alignment or a new street name is identified per the new name assignment policy.
6. City of Phoenix has a nationally recognized reputation for ease of navigation due to consistently adhering to the “Grid” system of named and numbered streets
7. For New Name Assignments, the name cannot be used anywhere else in the Phoenix metropolitan area. Names should be short, easy to pronounce, easy to spell, be sufficiently distinct from existing street names and be free of offensive or derogatory language (in any language/translation) based on City Code Section 18-1.

Types of Activities

1. New plat with right of way dedication(s) or Map of Dedication (MOD)
2. Right of way dedicated but not yet named (separate instrument dedication)
3. Street name changes to correct an error
4. Requests by property owners to change a recorded street name
5. Requests by the mayor or three city council members to change a recorded street name when it is deemed offensive or derogatory based on City Code Section 18-1.

Naming Process

Street Name Review for Subdivision Plats and MODs:

Developer submits Plat or MOD with suggested street names (collector, local) following assignment criteria. Planning and Development Department (PDD) staff reviews and names unnamed streets or works with developer to revise names when necessary. Street names will be identified on plat, MOD, master plan, and site plan.

Right of way dedicated but not yet named:

PDD names the street in accordance with assignment criteria and requests City Council approval of the naming ordinance.

Street name changes to correct an error:

These changes are made according to Ordinance G-4593, approved by City Council in April 2004. This process allows the PDD to administratively correct street name errors on newly recorded subdivision plats or MODs. The following are the processes depending on which party initiates the correction or change.

A. Certificate of Correction initiated by the Engineer of Record for the subdivision plat

Process:

The Certificate of Correction or Change shall state the following information:

- i. The corrections and/or changes requested;
- ii. The date that the plat was recorded;
- iii. The recording book and page number of the plat which is to be modified;
- iv. Written consent to the correction or change by the current owners of record of all the properties affected by the correction or change;
- v. Signature line for approval by the PDD Deputy Director; and
- vi. Signature line for a representative of the City Law Department approving the form of the Certificate of Correction.

The developer or his representative shall have the certificate or change recorded with the Maricopa County Recorder. A copy of this document shall be filed with the City Clerk Department and notification of the street name change shall be distributed to all interested parties by PDD.

B. Certificate of Correction initiated by the City of Phoenix

Process:

The PDD Deputy Director, or designee, prepares the Certificate of Correction stating the following information:

- i. The corrections requested;
- ii. The date that the plat was recorded;
- iii. The recording book and page number of the plat which is to be modified;
- iv. Written notification by certified mail of the correction to the owner(s) of record of all the properties affected by the correction;
- v. Owner(s) shall have seven days to request a hearing before the City Council if they oppose the correction;
- vi. Signature line for approval by the PDD Deputy Director, or designee;
- vii. Signature line for a representative of the City Law Department approving the form of the Certificate of Correction.

The PDD Deputy Director shall have the Certificate of Correction recorded with the Maricopa County Recorder. A copy of this document shall be filed with the City Clerk Department and notification of the street name change shall be distributed to all interested parties by PDD.

Requests by property owners to change recorded street name:

These changes are made according to City Council policies on street renaming adopted in June 2006 and revised in January 2012.

Process:

- i. Applicant meets with PDD to discuss the application and submittal requirements
- ii. Upon submittal, the applicant must pay a \$600 application fee in accordance with the PDD Fee Schedule. Additional fees may be applied if permit records and sign changes are required.
- iii. PDD will provide a list of affected property owners to the applicant and direct them to resources indicating tenants on these properties. The list identifies owners of property addressed off of the street. A petition must be submitted with signatures of 75 percent of the affected property owners in support of the street name change. If the application affects 12 or fewer properties, a petition indicating that 100 percent of the owners are in support of the change is required. A notarized Arizona State “Affidavit of Circulation” will be required to accompany the petition.
- iv. There are additional applicant notification requirements for proposed changes to the names of arterial or collector streets. Applicants must notify by mail all owners, residents and neighborhood associations registered with the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department within ½ mile of the affected street for arterials and within 1/8 mile for collectors. The applicant must also mail a proposal letter requesting HOAs notify their members of the proposed change. Applicants must also post a sign (similar to current zoning modification signage) about the proposed renaming before City Council consideration and at time of mailing. Signs must be posted 45 days before City Council consideration for arterials and 30 days before for collectors.
- v. Notification of the name change must be provided to the City of Phoenix Village Planner to be distributed to Village Planning Committee members and/or provided as an information only presentation to the appropriate Village Planning Committee.
- vi. PDD will review the request. This review includes comments from Fire, Police, Water and Street Transportation departments, the United States Postal Service, and will require compliance with the criteria outlined in the Maricopa Association of Governments “Address and Street Name Assignment Policy.”
- vii. If the application is denied, the applicant has the option to file an appeal to the City Manager’s Representative in PDD.
- viii. If name change is approved by staff, a Request for Council Action will be submitted for approval at a formal City Council hearing.

Requests by the Mayor or three City Council members to change a recorded street name when it is deemed offensive or derogatory based on City Code Section 18-1 as identified by the City Council:

These changes are made according to the City Council policy approved June 27, 2017.

Process:

- i. The Mayor or three Council members may request initiation of the process to change a street name along with proposed new street name or name options and basis for the change. The request with proposed new street name(s) should be submitted to the City Manager in writing.
- ii. In accordance with established deadlines, at the next available Formal Council meeting, staff will request City Council action to decide whether to initiate the process to review and later decide whether to change the street name. If approved by the full City Council, the process begins, as outlined below.
- iii. PDD will conduct a review of proposed street name(s). This review includes comments from Fire, Police, Water and Street Transportation Departments, the United States Postal Service, and will require compliance with the criteria outlined in the Maricopa Association of Governments “Address and Street Name Assignment Policy.”
- iv. Within 21 days of approval by City Council to start the renaming process, PDD will mail the first notice via Certified Mail to residents, businesses and property owners on the affected streets to inform them of the proposal to change the name of their street. Staff will identify all multi-unit properties, either commercial or residential, and consult USPS databases to locate individual unit mailing addresses to ensure all rental tenants receive notification, in addition to the property owner. The letter will contain a phone number and e-mail address to which residents may submit input on the proposed change.
- v. City staff will schedule two public meetings as additional ways for residents to learn about the process and provide input. The meetings will be held in the vicinity of the street proposed for renaming and meeting details will be included in the first resident mailing noted above.
- vi. All results of the technical review will be included in a report to City Council that also will include a map of impacted streets and abutting properties, a comprehensive summary of resident and business and property owner input on the proposed street name, a detailed estimate of city costs to replace street signs and a potential source of funding to cover those costs. The report will include an estimate of any financial impact to property owners, business owners and residents for required updates to addresses that would result from a street name change. It will also identify potential city funding for Council consideration to cover the costs, with the goal to ensure property owners, business owners and residents would not need to cover any required financial costs. It will list the steps staff will take to assist affected individuals with any additional notifications and processing of address changes, as requested, to reduce inconvenience and time impacts on property owners.

Staff also will evaluate potential timing issues that may need to be considered and will make a recommendation for an effective date to minimize any negative impacts.

- vii. Within 90 days of the request, an item will be placed on a Council meeting agenda for the City Council to decide on the proposed street name change.
- viii. Fourteen days prior to the meeting at which the City Council will vote on the proposed name change, PDD will mail via Certified Mail the second required notice to all affected property owners to inform them of the date, time and location of the Council meeting.
- ix. If City Council approves the renaming of a city street, PDD will compile and then share with residents a comprehensive resource list that includes hyperlinks and other contact information to minimize the time and inconvenience of updating addresses on personal accounts.
- x. If Council proposes to change the street to an alternate name that had not been reviewed, the alternate name would require additional analysis and up to 60 additional days for technical review.

After City Council Approval of a Name Change

Any City of Phoenix fees related to changing of a street name under the provision approved June 2017 will be waived for affected property owners and/or residents. The City will notify the USPS, which will update their database to ensure that any mail sent to an address with the previous street name will be delivered to the address under the new street name. PDD also will notify the Police, Fire, City Clerk, Finance, Law, Neighborhood Services, Planning and Development, Street Transportation, and Water Services departments, Maricopa County Recorder, Maricopa County Assessor, Arizona Public Service, Salt River Project, Southwest Gas, Cox Communications, Century Link, Federal Express, United Parcel Service, and private mapping services such as Google, Bing, Yahoo, MapQuest and Wide World of Maps.

PDD also will send to each property owner a notification letter of approval, an Address Change Notification and a copy of the ordinance. These can be presented by the property owner to any private entity that may request official documentation.

ATTACHMENT B

Robert E. Lee Street Submitted Comments - E-mail, Phone, Written, Web Comment Form
 (Comments from residents of street or adjacent streets shaded in yellow at top and shaded in yellow)

Date/Type of Contact	Position on renaming	Live on or adjacent (within)	Comments	Alternate name requests/suggestions
E-mail received Monday, July 13. Staff e-mail response same day.	Not specified	Yes	Request for meeting registration details. No comments given	
E-mail received Monday, July 13. Staff e-mail response same day.	In favor	Yes	Does not like Freedom or Justice Street, which she thinks are more appropriate for mid-Atlantic or Northeast. Prefers a desert-themed name such as Desert Vista, Desert Cactus. Resident joined July 28 community web forum to reiterate request for desert-	Desert-themed name such as: Desert Cactus Desert Vista
Second e-mail received July 22. Resident repeated request at July 28 Community Web forum	In favor	Yes	This commenter repeated these suggestions in the July 28 community web forum: Since I do not like the names suggested, I figured I should try to think of something else. Here is what I've thought of so far, having no idea if they are usable. I did search the Maricopa County Assessor website to see if they were already used (I searched without the East figuring it would give me wider results).	1) E. Edge Hill Street - nothing found 2) E. Vista Hills - there is a drive but not a street 3) E. Desert Ridge Street - I know we are near Desert Ridge Marketplace, which is what made me think of this. There is one Desert Ridge Drive in Scottsdale but that is all. I don't know if this can be considered because of the marketplace. 4) E. North Hills Street - I only found a North Hills Church, no street names 5) E. Vista Edge - nothing found 6) E. Desert Cactus Street - I know Cactus Road is here, not sure if that is too close. There is also a Desert Cactus Investment Company. That is all I found. 7) E. Mountain Vista Street - there is already a Court, Drive, Avenue, but no Street. That said, this may be too common and not acceptable based on the current use.8) E Desert Hills Street - there is already an E Desert Hills Drive in Scottsdale and a W Desert Hills Drive in both Phoenix and Glendale. This may be too common and therefore not acceptable as well.
E-mail received Monday, July 13. Staff e-mail response same day. Joined July 28 community web forum.	Not specified	Yes	Request for meeting registration details. Resident joined July 28 community web forum to oppose renaming because he feared the cost of updating his address would be too high.	
E-mail received Monday, July 13. Staff e-mail response same day. Spoke at July 28 community web forum.	Opposed	Yes	Spoke at the July 28 community web forum to express concern about covering the up-front costs of updating address.	
7/15/2020 phone call. Call returned same day.	Opposed	Yes	Called to request hard copies of all documents be mailed to his home. Also requested the history of Phoenix City Code Section 18-1 on which this section of the renaming policy is based. Explained that he's a 40-year resident of the street. He objects to the current policy as it takes away residents right to name their own street. He supports leaving the name as is as it honors a man that fought to secure the country's independence. He also said a process should begin to rename Washington and Jefferson streets and asked how he could begin that process. Staff explained they would send a copy of the renaming policy that lists all of the ways the renaming process can begin for a street.	
E-mail received Wednesday, July 15. Staff e-mail response same day.	In favor	Yes	Asked for web meeting registration details. Also asked that any effective date of a new name be AFTER the November elections to avoid any issues with voter registration. Does not oppose renaming but does not like current suggestions.	Does not like Freedom or Justice Street. Prefers something "uplifting" such as a flower.
E-mail received Thursday, July 16. Staff e-mail response on July 17.	Not specified	Yes	Request for meeting registration details. No comments given	
E-mail comment July 22. Participant in July 28 community web forum		Yes	Spoke at July 28 community web forum. Said renaming the street was a waste of tax dollars.	
E-mail comments submitted July 22	Opposed	Yes	Whether you like who Robert E. Lee is or was or find his name offensive or not, he is a part of our nation's history. Revising history or choosing to ignore it or changing the name of our street will not change previous wrongs but ignoring it or trying to erase it will only ensure that we do not learn from it and surely badness will follow(Just watch the nightly news.) Just ask anyone who survived a tyrant who did it: Hitler, Stalin, etc. Those who ignore history are condemned to repeat it. Not a good idea.	
E-mail comments and request to register.	Opposed	Yes	I am concerned that having to do all the address changes while also dealing with the pandemic is troublesome to me and no doubt many others. The city is also creating an added expense of time and dollars related to contacting dozens of businesses (such as social security and banks to name only a few key ones) as well as friends and family. (In a follow-up phone call, she explained that she was concerned about the efforts required to update her address. She doesn't understand why it has to occur now. She also questioned if Washington, Jefferson and Adams streets would be changed and if not, why. Reiterated her opposition to renaming in spoken comments at July 28 community web forum.	

Robert E. Lee Street Submitted Comments - E-mail, Phone, Written, Web Comment Form
 (Comments from residents of street or adjacent streets shaded in yellow at top and shaded in yellow)

E-mail comments submitted July 25	In favor	Yes	E-mailed the following statement: My suggestion is John Lewis Way. You are going to get a lot of racists fighting any change. They bought their house on this street and wasn't phased by it. Good luck.	John Lewis Way
Web comment submitted July 30	Opposed	Yes	As a resident on Robert E Lee I am disappointed that a city would cater to the whims of a small majority of political groups. As a senior citizen, in all the year's I've lived on Robert E Lee, a good 60% of people in the 20-35 age group never even heard of him. How much is this change going to cost the taxpayers of Phoenix? How many hundreds of cross streets will have to have the signage changed. How many miles is Robert E Lee across the Valley? Not to mention maps, mortgage deeds, and again as a senior all the paperwork I will have to change; drivers license, passports, medical information, insurance policies, etc., etc. I DO NOT WANT MY STREET NAME CHANGED TO " FREEDOM" OR " JUSTICE". THAT'S A POLITICAL/MOVEMENT STATEMENT. TO ME IT'S OFFENSIVE AND DEROGATORY. WE LIVE IN THE DESERT. Come up with a name that has no political connotation and no reference to a movement. Possibly, Foxtail, Desert Sage, Aloe Lane, Adobe Lane/Avenue, Azalea, Black Mesa, Broken Arrow . . . For goodness sake, get creative and stay away from political interest groups. Thank you, Melissa Wilson	Foxtail Desert Sage Aloe Lane Adobe Lane/Avenue Azalea Black Mesa Broken Arrow
E-mail comment submitted Aug. 5		Yes	We would like to recommend names for consideration of our residential address for almost thirty (30) years. Our feeling is that the renaming should not be a direct result of political pandering. The new street name should hold content of an appropriate southwestern reflective of our deep heritage not in response to politically charged issues at the moment.	Vista Al Valle (Valley View) Aves de Arizona (Birds of Arizona) Camino de Montaña (Mountain Road) Pico del Valle (Valley Peak) Bell's Vireo (Songbird of the Southwest_ Bonita Calypte (Native AZ bird) Calle de muchos (Street of Many) Calle de la Paz (Street of Peace) Calle de Esperanza (Street of Hope) Casas de Bienestar (Wellness Homes) Casas de Bien (Homes of good) Casas Pacificas (Peaceful houses) Calle de la Fortuna (Street of Fortune) Calle de Belleza (Street of Beauty)
E-mail comments submitted July 25. Also registered for July 28 meeting and sent addl. comment.	In favor	Yes	Requested web meeting registration links. Also expressed concern that her elderly mother would have difficulty participating in the process. Left voicemail asking for meeting registration info. for her mother. Did respond back by phone that her mother supports changing the name of the street.	
Web comment submitted Aug. 5	In favor	Yes	I support the renaming, however, the proposed names, freedom or justice st, are uninspired. Can we investigate alternatives? Desert themed? Plants/wildlife Native people themed? Wild West themed Even naming it after John Lewis would be better (however it feels like a knee jerk reaction during a moment in time) Thank you	John Lewis
Web comment submitted Aug. 11	In favor	Adjacent	Hello all. As a family, we are requesting to re-name Robert E Lee Street to "Buffalo Soldier Way". The Buffalo Soldiers were a collection of African American US Army Cavalry Regiments formed in 1866 after the Civil War and based in Southern Arizona out of Ft Huachuca. The Buffalo Soldier name then carried on until the Korean War when the Army was fully integrated. Why are we suggesting this name? 1.) Family tie-in: My Wife's grandfather was a Buffalo Soldier during the two World Wars. 2.) Military tie-in: Along with many Phoenix families, we have both active duty and veterans in the family. This includes a recent Arizona National Guard veteran that is a Buffalo Soldier descendant. 3.) Arizona tie-in. The Civil War barely touched the Arizona territory whereas the Buffalo Soldiers, as mentioned, operated here. 4.) Horse tie-in: The entrance to my neighborhood (Triple Crown) has a statue of three horses. This is a reference to the three horse races that make up the Triple Crown Championship. Since the Buffalo Soldiers of the Civil War era were horse mounted cavalry, it provides something of a connection to a horse marquee theme. We wish this to be a positive, forward looking, non-judgmental, uplifting process supported by the neighbors along the street and residents of Phoenix. We appreciate the burden this change places on those directly impacted (We live next to but not on the actual street), but ask they consider the long-term goodwill that can come from this change. This re-naming makes no change to, nor does it erase the history of the Civil War. It is simply a street name and what we choose to commemorate with that name. In 1960 the choice was made to commemorate the Commanding General of the Southern Confederate Army. In 2020, my family and I ask that we choose to commemorate The	

Robert E. Lee Street Submitted Comments - E-mail, Phone, Written, Web Comment Form
(Comments from residents of street or adjacent streets shaded in yellow at top and shaded in yellow)

Comments submitted via web form July 24	In favor	Adjacent	<p>Hello, I live in the Triple Crown subdivision. This is at the intersection of Tatum & East Robert E Lee Street. I absolutely feel the street should be renamed.</p> <p>I am sure you are aware that Robert E Lee was a general in the Confederate Army, which fought to keep Black Americans suppressed through segregation and racial injustice.</p> <p>The name of this street is a vestige of America's racist past. We cannot allow honors given to war criminals to remain when the people who bestowed those honors don't represent our values today. It is the acceptance of all races & ethnicities that truly make not only Phoenix great but the entire USA.</p> <p>I ask that you please consider my proposal to rename East Robert E Lee Street.</p>	
E-mail comments submitted July 25. Comments submitted during July 28 community web forum.		Adjacent	<p>Requested meeting registration details. Clarified that he actually lives in Phoenix adjacent to RE Lee but has a Scottsdale postal address; parcel backyard faces RE Lee Street. Spoke at July 28 community web forum. Advocated for changing the name of the street to Buffalo Soldiers Way.</p>	Buffalo Soldiers Way
E-mail comment submitted Aug. 10	In favor	Yes	<p>I am writing to you about the proposed renaming of Robert E Lee. I am a resident in the area and am concerned about the initial proposed names by the City Council. The proposed street names (Justice or Freedom) don't reflect the other names in the area. While I am not opposed to renaming the street I don't feel that these street names fit (arguably the Robert E Lee name didn't fit either so again I think it makes sense for many reasons to rename). While I don't have any suggestions for your reference some of the other names are Villa Maria, Michigan, Annette, Villa Theresa, Villa Rita, Michelle, Charleston. I urge you to consider alternatives that are more fitting to the neighborhood.</p> <p>End of Resident Comments</p>	<p>Villa Maria Michigan Annette Villa Theresa Villa Rita Michelle Charleston</p>
E-mail received Wednesday, July 15. Staff e-mail response on July 16.	In favor	No	<p>Request for community forum registration information. Resident lives two streets away but drives on R.E. Lee daily.</p>	
Web comment form. Submitted July 19	In favor supports Freedom Street as replacement	No	<p>As a member of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) District 1 (Maricopa County, Arizona), I strongly recommend that the Robert E. Lee Street be renamed to:</p> <p>FREEDOM STREET - Maria Alvarado</p>	
E-mail comments submitted July 23			<p>Request for meeting registration details. Staff e-mailed registration links on July 23</p>	
Comments submitted via web form July 24	In favor	No	<p>I agree with changing the street name Robert E Lee to a more appropriate name. I think museum's and libraries are appropriate place's to highlight these people from our history. I don't think we should idolize them in our everyday lives.</p> <p>Thank you</p>	
Comments submitted via web form July 24	In favor	No	<p>E-mailed the following statement: I live off Robert E Lee street and would like to see the street name changed. We should not be honoring a traitor who fought against our union to uphold slavery. I think John Lewis or any other civil rights activist would be more appropriate to name a street after.</p>	
E-mail comments submitted July 25	In favor		<p>Requested changing it to Liberty Street</p>	Liberty Street
E-mail comments submitted July 25	In favor		<p>E-mailed the following statement: I am happy the city is taking action to initiate this process; it is a small but very visible step in the task of recognizing our country's history and pattern of deeply rooted systemic racism. Please feel free to use these written comments at the community meeting.</p>	
E-mail comment form received July 25	Opposed	No	<p>Seriously, I cannot believe you are doing this or even considering it. Leave it alone and put the resources for this toward something better like getting the homeless out of my neighborhood.</p>	
E-mail comments submitted July 27		No	<p>Request for meeting registration information</p>	
Web comment form July 27	Opposed	No	<p>E-mailed the following statement: Your knee-jerk reaction to this "Cause Of The Moment" to erase our American history is all but an insult to most of us, most of us that remain silent due to the backlash from hate groups that cannot accept a difference in opinion to theirs. I have lived in Phoenix in excess of 20 years now. Leaving the mid-Atlantic region I had called home most of my life I had the privilege of exploring the battlefields of Gettysburg, Antietam and Manassas and visiting the Washington DC monuments and museums countless times as a child on school trips or family visits to these sites to enjoy our history, never once being offended or damaged by our history.</p> <p>On July 9th a letter posted by Alan Stephenson and Kini Knudson with the statement "street names deemed derogatory or offensive" in this letter was used in describing Robert E. Lee next to our home. Additionally Mayor Kate Gallego and Councilwoman Thelda Williams compiled their wherewithal to satisfy the group(s), either external or internal to our city limits, need for destruction of our history. Though this is street name is small in appearance the Political Correctness must be shoved into our face not caring who it insults or offends, your goal is just to get by this "Cause Of The Moment" and get reelected sometime later after this blows over. I want a moratorium on all street and highway renaming's in our state but I understand you are not my resource</p>	
Web comment submitted July 28	In favor	No	<p>Supports renaming the street to honor our veterans - Maria Lopez (LULAC)</p>	Liberty Drive or Freedom Street

Robert E. Lee Street Submitted Comments - E-mail, Phone, Written, Web Comment Form
 (Comments from residents of street or adjacent streets shaded in yellow at top and shaded in yellow)

Web comment submitted July 28	Opposed	No	E-mailed the following statement: The impact of changing the street name does not outweigh the cost, time and effort being spent on this issue. Robert E. Lee - he's part of history. We can't change history. I doubt that few people know the character of the man or the history or would think about the history when they pass by or drive down that street. If the street name changes, where does it end? What next? Efforts should be focused on what can be done to build or enhance relationships, public outreach/education and communication to change the heart and minds around this issue. There are more important issues that we are facing today - pandemic, unemployment, economy, education, etc. The sooner we look forward, the better. We oppose changing the street name of Robert E. Lee. And we oppose and are offended that a few want to suppress American history.	
Web comment submitted July 31	In favor	No	I am in agreement with changing the name of Robert E Lee Street. If a street name is a reminder to Black Americans of revisionist history and a century and a half of systemic racism and oppression, changing the street name is a small step towards recognizing the struggles of Black Americans and understanding their perspective. I have heard the logical fallacy that this will lead to "erasing history and burning all the history books." Removing a street name, or even a statue, does not erase history. Street names and statues are simply selective reminders of history; as a country struggling to move towards a post-racist society, it is important that we be reminded of that which is unifying rather than that which is divisive. Thank you for taking my comments-	
E-mail received Aug. 4	In favor	No	: I asked to speak several times at the Robert E Lee renaming meeting this evening and signed up to speak in the chat box, yet was never asked to. I'm extremely disappointed. I FAVOR the name change and would have appreciated my voice be heard. I'm not sure why they didn't continue the conversation, but I am frustrated that I wasn't given the opportunity to express my opinion. CHANGE THE NAME! Due justice to our Country and ALL citizens. It's time to change NOW.	
Web comment submitted Aug. 4	Opposed		Where will this statue smashing and street renaming era end? The loud voices of a tiny subculture of victimized groups blames their current plight on the past. To quote Victor Davis Hanson, a Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institute: "The pretense is that the Civil War can only be regarded as tragic in terms of the present oppression of the descendants of Southern slaves — 154 years after the extinction of the Confederate states." Is this a broadbased cultural shift, or a simple blip in time due to a small group of frenzied activists who have received an unfortunate education that America is bad and needs to be taught a lesson. America is not perfect, but it is good. That's the point. People don't flee America because of oppression and hunger! People flee their countries to come here. They don't care about the civil war. They care about their FREEDOM. Is the fact that a Northern General named Robert E Lee moving to the confederacy the worst of the worst? It is well known that as a Northern General he could not seek to plunder his home state of Virginia which was part of the South. Where does this stop? Jackson Street in South Phx named after President Jackson honors a man who signed the INDIAN REMOVAL ACT, dispossessing Indians who then incurred disease and death. He also opposed the abolitionist movement. Broadway road, now ceremonially named MLK Blvd honors a man that assaulted women and also let that happen in his presence, was a philanderer and plagiarized his PhD thesis. Getting back to being perfect to be good. None of the above were perfect, but their life stood for many good things. WHERE DOES THIS STOP?? The good and the bad are part of the American Story. Government leaders such as yourself should be driven by the long game, ie what will this mean for decades to come. This effort at statue removal and monument or street renaming is playing the short game. Why not vote on it????	
Web comment submitted Aug. 4	In favor	No	Confederate monuments and symbols emerged in an effort to intimidate black Americans and uphold a revisionist — and racist — version of history. It is time for this to change. A quote from Annette Gordon Reed, a history scholar at Harvard states it best: "The United States was far from perfect, but the values of the Confederacy, open and unrepentant white supremacy and total disregard for the humanity of black people, to the extent they still exist, have produced tragedy and discord. There is no path to a peaceful and prosperous country without challenging and rejecting that as a basis for our society."	
Web comment submitted Aug. 4	In favor	No	My family live on Michelle Drive, just south of Robert E Lee. I would like to submit the suggestion of ROBERTA as a replacement name. Most of the names in the neighborhood are female names (Angela, Libby, Muriel, Rita, Maria) so it would fit in. It would also be an easy mark of a pen to make the change from Robert E Lee for residents, softening the blow of such a change, totally apolitical, which is a good idea. It is benign enough not to cause upset.	Roberta
Web comment submitted Aug. 4	In favor	No	The street was renamed to Robert E Lee in 1961 as part of the racist backlash against the Civil Rights Movement. Its embarrassing that the name is still here and it must be renamed. Buffalo Soldier is a good name. I'm offended by the street names. I vote YES on renaming the street. Do we commemorate traitors and racists, or do we commemorate Buffalo Soldiers?	Buffalo Soldiers
E-mail comment submitted Aug. 5				Charles Keating IV
Web comment submitted Aug. 5	In favor		One can be named after the Peak. The other, how about Lincoln Ragsdale - after my old neighbor who was a Tuskegee Airman!	Lincoln Ragsdale

Robert E. Lee Street Submitted Comments - E-mail, Phone, Written, Web Comment Form
 (Comments from residents of street or adjacent streets shaded in yellow at top and shaded in yellow)

E-mail submitted Aug. 6	In favor	No	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to speak in favor of the proposed name change for Robert E. Lee Street. The proposal to change the street name is not about hiding, revising or "cancelling" history. It is about truth and accurately portraying history. I am sure you are familiar with the saying "history is written by the winners." Well, in the case of the American Civil War, it appears that the narrative regarding the South in the Civil War was written by the losers. The narrative talks about the romantic notion of fighting for a lost cause; of preserving states' rights and freedom from the tyranny of the federal government. All led by a group of brave and brilliant generals. Let's be clear. The Civil War was about rebellion, treason and preserving the moral outrage of slavery. And Americans are still paying the price for that legacy. Naming streets after leaders of rebellions is not appropriate. If it is, how about renaming the street Benedict Arnold Street? After all, he was the "hero of Saratoga"? There are more appropriate ways to remember this history than through monuments and street namings. Let us not forget that until the recent Supreme Court decision gutting the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Arizona was subject to pre-clearing of its elections procedure, because of a history of discrimination against black people.</p>	
			<p>Quote from March 24, 2019 National Review Article titled WAGING WAR AGAINST THE DEAD - Victor Davis Hansen</p> <p>"The 21st century is in danger of becoming an era of statue smashing and historical erasure. Not since the iconoclasts of the Byzantine Empire or the epidemic of statue destruction during the French Revolution has the world seen anything like the current war on the past. In 2001, the primeval Taliban blew up two ancient Buddha statues in Afghanistan on grounds that their very existence was sacrilegious to Islam. In 2015, ISIS militants entered a museum in Mosul, Iraq, and destroyed ancient, pre-Islamic statues and idols. Their mute crime? These artifacts predated the prophet Mohammed. The west prides itself on the idea that liberal societies would never descend into such nihilism. Think again. In the last two years there has been a rash of statue toppling throughout the American South, aimed at wiping out memorialization of Confederate heroes. The pretense is that the Civil War can only be regarded as tragic in terms of the present oppression of the descendants of Southern Slaves-154 years after the extinction of the Confederate States. The subtext of most current name changing and icon toppling is that particular victimized groups blame their current plight on the past. They assume that by destroying long-dead supposed enemies, they will be liberated-or at least feel better in the present."</p> <p>Maybe the issue with this obscure street renaming should be the inflection point at which you don't just bow to a few loud voices who are offended by many things, maybe anything. As the saying goes, those who don't learn from the past are bound to repeat it. Our history teaches lessons about good and bad. The fact that history is taught only along lines that are "feel good" raises a generation of lopsided citizenry who are not equipped to go through life circumspectly. I am sure that the City of Phoenix has better things to do with our tax money than entertain the whims of the offended in a sliver of time where our society is going through a short term social spasm rather than a prolific and long term social change.</p>	
E-mail comment submitted Aug. 10	Opposed	No	<p>I oppose the renaming and the current process of the renaming of the street, it is unconstitutional process at this time with covid19 happening. Open forum should be allowed so everyone can Express their concerns in person.</p>	

**July 28 Robert E Lee Community Web Forum Participants with comments
(Residents that live on or adjacent to street highlighted in yellow)**

Are you in favor of street renaming	Live on or adjacent to street	Comments	Name suggestions
Opposed	Adjacent	Written comments submitted with registration: Changing the name is a waste of time. It's just a name.	
Opposed	Yes		
Opposed	Yes		Candelabra Quisquous Pertinacious Fatuious
In favor	Yes		
Opposed	Yes	Written comments submitted with registration: Who is going to pay for my drivers license change, inform my creditors, pay for new checks?	
In favor	Yes	Spoken comments at community forum: I'm a resident of Robert E. Lee Street and have always found the name problematic. I believe that it should be changed and I want the City Council to know that as a resident there are some of us that believe it's problematic and doesn't have a place in Arizona.	
Opposed	Yes	Written comments with meeting registration: Neither name alternatives are acceptable. Spoken comments at community forum: Thank you for the opportunity to speak. Like other people have stated, I purchased a home and it happened to be on this street. I picked the house because I could afford it and now this happens. My wife is permanently disabled and I'm a single-income household and the amount of fees is going to be more than I can afford all at one time. The other concern is that the other people in my house...will everyone in every house be reimbursed for any expenses or only the homeowner. (staff answer). The two choices -- Freedom and Justice -- if those are our choices we should leave it as Robert E. Lee. I don't agree with changing names and I'm sure if we had a non-virtual meeting you would hear a lot more of that. There are a lot of elderly people on this street that would express the same concern. I'm appalled with everything that is going on and I'm saddened by it.	
Opposed	Yes	Written comments with meeting registration: Are there any other options for street names? What about all of the legal issues and paperwork for homeowners?	
Opposed	Yes	Spoken comments at community forum: I'm a resident of Robert E. Lee Street. I'm a homeowner and am very upset by the whole thing. I think it's a waste of tax dollars for all of you people to be working on this when we have so many other needs in Phoenix. Just like the gentleman before said, we're trying to erase history and it's just not a good thing. We're letting people take over what America has been.	
In favor	Yes	Spoken comments at community meeting: Already submitted. We do have a few questions. Unlike some of the people that spoke, we've been here 24 years and this is not the first time it has come up. David if you were there three years ago I may have spoken to you about it then. We're not for or against. When we moved in we almost didn't move in because of the street. Our feeling is that if we decide to rename make it easy and simple as possible. In 24 years you can't believe how this name has been mangled. If it's going to be done make it simple. I've submitted 7 or 8 names already. Do we get any say on the final candidates for a new name. I assume our number and zip code stay the same, correct? Do we get any say on the actual final name when it's narrowed down? (staff answer). I thought that Justice and Freedom -- we don't live in Massachusetts and the name should be relevant to Arizona if we do it.	
Opposed	Adjacent	Written comments with meeting registration: I would like to see the name stay as it is. If that is not possible I don't agree with the two names suggested at this time. They are politically motivated. It is not necessary to use the street renaming to express something political.	
Opposed	Adjacent	Written comments with meeting registration: Renaming Robert E. Lee street is an ill-advised attempt to erase a portion of American history. As citizens of the United States, we are endowed with certain inalienable rights. The right to not be offended is not among them.	
Opposed		Written comments with meeting registration: Seems the emphasis is on newer homes and ignoring the history of the older section. Surely the elderly especially in the older section will get paid for all of their address changes for insurances, hospitals, and notaries which many cannot drive to.	

**July 28 Robert E Lee Community Web Forum Participants with comments
(Residents that live on or adjacent to street highlighted in yellow)**

Opposed		Written comments with meeting registration: Ignoring, changing or denying history is dangerous. It leads to repetition thereof. We need to learn from it. Slavery and war are bad things but hiding our heads in the sand will only ensure that they continue to happen. We need to concentrate on substance. Spoken comments at community meeting: I guess my biggest concern doesn't really involve the name or any name in particular. My concern is the current desire to either ignore or change or discount the history of our country. No matter how we change the name, it seems to me that it's going to offend somebody and the idea that ignoring history is somehow going to be a good thing goes against the thought that those who ignore history are condemned to repeat it. The next logical step would be we burn all of the history books. We study history so we can learn how to behave. I don't live on Robert E. Lee. I live in Belmont and Triple Crown. While it's not my street, I go in and out of my complex on that street every day. I think it's just as easy to offend by changing it as it is to offend them by leaving it. We need to focus on thinking and not feelings. Burning history books is not the answer.	
Opposed	Adjacent		
Opposed	Adjacent	Written comments with meeting registration: This is unfair to the people who live on this street. What an unnecessary hassle. I am personally sick and tired of "cancel culture."	
Opposed	Adjacent	Written comments with meeting registration: As a 70-year old woman who was born and grew up in Nashville, Tennessee, I think there should be a change. The street needs a an honorable and worthy name.	Pat Tillman Rose Mofford John McCain Annie Dodge Wauneka
	Adjacent		
In favor	Adjacent	Written comments submitted with registration: As a family, we are suggesting the name ""Buffalo Soldier Way (or Boulevard or street). The Buffalo Soldiers were African-American horse mounted US Army Calvary Soldiers that operated in Southern Arizona. Spoken comments at community meeting: I live in the Triple Crown neighborhood and my house backs up to Robert E. Lee separated by a short green belt. I'm looking forward to this change that I think can be a positive forward thinking change. I have a suggestion for a particular name that resonates with my name and Arizona. My family's suggestion is to rename it Buffalo Soldier Way or Boulevard or Street. Buffalo Soldiers were an African-American horse mounted cavalry troop that operated out of southern Arizona near Fort Huachuca. This name maintained through the horse mounted days all the way to the Korean War when the army was integrated, when the name was consolidated. My wife's grandfather was in a Buffalo Soldier unit during the two world wars. We have a direct personal connection to that. We also have a military tie...one of my nephews is in the Army currently. He's a lieutenant colonel and I have another nephew who was in the Arizona National Guard when they were deployed to Afghanistan. He is a direct descendant of a Buffalo Soldier -- his great grandfather. Also there's an Arizona tie-in. The Civil War barely touched Arizona other than one small skirmish. The Buffalo Solders were based here and maintained a presence for many years. There also is a horse theme. I live in Triple Crown -- there are three horses at the entrance to the neighborhood. But I think the connection with the horses is neat and gives it a certain connection. I think this can be positive forward-thinking event and I've heard people talk about that this should've been done long ago. The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, the second best time is today. By doing this name change we're planting the tree now.	Buffalo Soldier Way
In favor	Yes		Madison Lane Daisy Avenue Lily Lane
	Adjacent		
Opposed	Adjacent	Written comments with meeting registration: Who is offended with the current street name? Why weren't the REL neighbors notified in advance so they could vote on this issue? What will the cost be to taxpayers? What career benefit does this provide to current city council members?	
In favor	Adjacent		Place or thing or object, not a person or any political associated name
Opposed	Adjacent	Spoken comments at community meeting: Thank you for taking the time with us. I'm in the same boat as the last two speakers. I live just off the street and have to go on the street to get to my street. I take zero offense that that is the name. I just use it to drive on. He happens to be on the losing side. I feel like we're trying to ignore or erase history and history is what we learn from. Have we in America made mistakes? Absolutely. But that doesn't change the fact that we have moved forward, more forward than any nation in the world. I hope that we're not about to do the same thing and spend time and taxpayer dollars to rename Washington and Jefferson and Van Buren and up to a dozen president named streets that we have in our city because they were slave owners. It doesn't make slave ownership correct but those are people that propelled us into history and founded our country. I would hate to see us do this. I don't want to see us rename any street. If there's something to honor, but to take away from history I completely disagree with and I also would hope... I'd rather see \$3,200 that was mentioned... I'd rather you take that money and repave 44th Street and Robert E. Lee and do something that is productive that people can enjoy every day versus having to learn a new street name because we wanted to get rid of part of our history.	
Opposed			Revolutionary Way
Opposed	Adjacent	Written comments submitted with registration: If the street is to be re-named use the name Robert Street.	Robert Street

**July 28 Robert E Lee Community Web Forum Participants with comments
(Residents that live on or adjacent to street highlighted in yellow)**

End of Resident Comments		
Opposed	No	
In favor	No	James Tiberius Kirk Blvd
In favor		
In favor	No	Written comments submitted with registration: History often ignored the fact that Lee not only owned slaves but beat them. It's time to bring our history to light. This is our chance to bring the voices of those marginalized in history to the forefront. Let's rename the street one of their names.
In favor	No	
In favor	No	Written comments with meeting registration: I'm in favor of renaming the street after a civil rights leader such as John Lewis.
Opposed	No	Written comments with meeting registration: What significance was there to naming Robert E. Lee street in the first place?
	No	
Opposed		Written comments with meeting registration: This is an unnecessary expense to the city and will ultimately cost taxpayers.
In favor		Triple Crown Way Triple Crown Drive
In favor		
Opposed		Written comments submitted with registration: The street name Robert E. Lee has not been a problem until now because of the upcoming Presidential election. Renaming the street is being used to push a political agenda therefore it should not be changed.
Opposed	No	Written comments submitted with registration: My initial thought is that I don't wish to spend taxpayer funds on this process. However, I do feel that slavery is, was and always will be despicable. In the event that the final decision is to rename, then I recommend American Way as the new name.
In favor	No	Road Street
In favor	No	Obama Drive Hamilton Road Lafayette Way Mulligan Drive Laurens Road Marquis Street Schuyler Street
Opposed		
In favor		Humble Way Triple Crown Way
In favor	No	
In favor		Written comments submitted with registration: Robert E. Lee is not important to Arizona and has no tie to the state and is part of a racist past. Change the name. Spoken comments at community meeting: Thank you for listening. I have a slightly different perspective. I've lived here my entire life and pass this street every day and realize that is kind of strange to change things and it feels like we're changing history. Robert E. Lee is not an important figure in Arizona. We'll still know about him and know about him in history classes. The reason it's important to change the name is because naming a street after someone says that that person is admirable. We need to be respecting in our society. Robert E. Lee was fighting to continue to enslave an entire group of people that is not the kind of person you want to memorialize in our "post racial" society. I understand this will be inconvenient but it will help any Black person that walks by the street there's a feeling that I'm not cared for, I don't matter. So I think it's an important change that needs to happen and a first step toward reparations for people that have been harmed.
Opposed	No	
Opposed	No	
Opposed		

**Aug. 3 Robert E Lee Community Web Forum Participants with comments
(Residents that live or adjacent to street highlighted in yellow)**

Are you in favor of street renaming	Live on (Yes) or adjacent to street (Adjacent)?	Comments	Alternate name preferences
In favor	Adjacent		
In favor	Yes		Harriet Street Beale Street Stardust Street"
Opposed	Yes	Written comments submitted with registration: If we have to choose from the given options, Freedom opposed to Justice.	
Opposed	Adjacent	Written comments submitted with registration: We are all united as one. Acquiescing to the demands of the few does not represent your duty that we elected you to represent us. Renaming the street to Liberty/Freedom does the opposite. Your vote to rename the street does not represent my voice. Spoken comments at community forum: Thanks staff for public service. I see bullying is a problem in schools, workplaces and homes. Is it ridiculous to stand up to bullies? Our country is being bullied into canceling our past. This only allows the past to be hidden and allow people to get away with atrocities. It's messy, but we must shine a light on the past. Let's unite and vote opposed to erasing history and the perpetrators getting away with.	
In favor	Yes		
In favor	Yes	Spoken comments at community forum: I have off the cuff comments. Just interested in learning about the process and appreciate all of the information staff has provided. I'm eager for the name change. I've always been embarrassed to give out my address -- it's the name of the loser. We have history classes and lessons to remind us about our history. We don't have any streets named after Hitler, and I don't think anyone has any issues remembering the atrocities he's responsible for. I'm in favor and very much support renaming and am surprised it didn't happen sooner. I like both proposed alternatives and would prefer Freedom.	Freedom
Opposed	Yes		
Opposed	Adjacent	Written comments with meeting registration: My father is in his 70's and has lived on Robert E. Lee Street for almost 50 years. It is overwhelming for him to think about having to deal with changing his address in all the places it would need to be changed.	Robert Street Lee Street E Street
In favor	Adjacent		
Opposed	Yes	Spoken comments at community forum: I participated in the first meeting. Don't want to repeat. But I do want to note I'm a 20-year resident. I never gave the street name a second thought and wouldn't have bought a house here if the name were an issue. I think it's a terrible inconvenience. I'd like to be reimbursed for both costs and time to update addresses. Also Robert E. Lee in Scottsdale and Glendale...what will happen with those? I have to write this address on my correspondence. If the name must be changed. I don't like Buffalo Soldiers because it's too long. I prefer Falcon because there are a lot of falcons and hawks found in this area all the time. I'd vote no on renaming.	Falcon or Hawk
In favor	Yes	Written comments with meeting registration: It would help if the city would create a form that we could easily mail out for address changes. MVD and utility companies should be able to auto change our address. Big corporations should be notified by the city that the street has been renamed.	
Opposed	Adjacent	Spoken comments at community forum: Mentioned that he sent online comments separately. What was the history of the naming of this street? How many people have been offended? How many people have come forward to say they're offended? (Staff responds about history of the name). I vote no for the change. Temporary cultural upheaval, a spasm, and I don't see it as a long-term cultural shift. If we change that, we should change Jackson Street, who signed the Indian Removal Act....and opposed the abolitionist movement. How far will this go and how will this end and how many people are we going to try to placate.	

**Aug. 3 Robert E Lee Community Web Forum Participants with comments
(Residents that live or adjacent to street highlighted in yellow)**

Opposed		Spoken comments at community forum: At the last meeting someone mentioned that the best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The time to be concerned about the street was when residents purchased their homes. If it was offensive then, we would've dealt with it. It's impossible to come up with a name that won't offend someone. There's no end to who can be offended. Government shouldn't placate hurt feelings, it's to build roads. Recommend 182nd Street northeast. We need to grow up and stop wasting city funds. There are costs to updating many things, GPS, and on and on. We have opiate and other problems. This is over the top. I vote no on renaming.	
Opposed	Adjacent		
In favor	Adjacent	Written comments with meeting registration: I am in favor of renaming the street after a civil rights leader such as John Lewis.	
In favor	Adjacent		
In favor			
In favor	Adjacent	Spoken comments at community forum (separately submitted comments via web comment form): Thank you for the meeting. I attended the first and had more comments. As I mentioned in the first meeting, I suggest Buffalo Soldier Way (description of Buffalo Soldiers). We have a family tie to this. We have a military tie-in as we have veterans and active duty armed services. It's horse themed...it's relevant to the Triple Crown theme on our street. Positive, forward thinking. It's a burden on residents but urge them to consider the good will this will bring. This doesn't change history...it's simply a street name. In 2020, I ask that we commemorate a group of army veterans.	Buffalo Soldier Way
Opposed	Yes		
Opposed	Adjacent		
Opposed		Written comments with meeting registration: There are way too many pressing issues (health, housing, employment) to make a name change a priority. Even this name can spark discussion and lead to positive changes. You cant change or just erase history	
In favor	Adjacent		
		End of resident comments	
Opposed			
In favor			Cesar Chavez Blvd. Jordin Sparks Ave. Kaitlyn Dever Blvd.
Opposed			
Opposed		Spoken comments at community forum: My name is Robert E. Lee. Air Force Veteran willing to die for my country. Robert E. Lee had positive aspects of his character: Christian, veteran, raised Washington's niece and was known as an honorable man. Lincoln asked him to run the country's military. We should remember the good not just the bad. When does renaming stop? We could find wrong that the Maricopa Indians did and we'd need to change the name of the county. There is no benefit in changing the name except to erase our history and fix past sins in this cultural war that we're in. I have been fired from my job because of my name and it's horrendous what I'm going through as a commercial pilot.	
Opposed			
Opposed			
In favor			
In favor			
In favor			
In favor			
In favor			
Opposed			
Opposed			
In favor			
Opposed			
In favor			James T Kirk Blvd
In favor			
In favor			
In favor			
Opposed			

Aug. 3 Robert E Lee Community Web Forum Participants with comments
(Residents that live or or adjacent to street highlighted in yellow)

In favor			
In favor			Southwest Sun Avenue

**Aug. 10 Robert E Lee Meeting - PVCC Participants and Comments
(All residents present)**

Are you in favor of Comments	
street renaming	
Opposed	Summary of spoken comments: The renaming effort is taking money away from the city's many other financial needs, such as addressing speeding on our street and funding the Police Department. This is not a priority in our city. Why is this a problem now? How long will be eligible for reimbursement for costs as they arise? Can we have bills sent directly to the city?
	Summary of spoken comments: I am fundamentally against "virture signalling." Let the residents pick a new name.
Opposed	Summary of spoken comments: Speaker questioned the legality of conducting a process such as this using electronic communication, and he objects to the policy under which this renaming process was begun. He requested the documentation that established the legality of electronic meetings during a pandemic.
Opposed	Summary of spoken comments: Changing the street name will create unsolvable problems when title searches are conducted for homes on the street, driving costs to close to \$1,000. It could take years to solve the title issues that would be created by renaming the street. This also will create challenges for people to receive prescription drugs and other important parcels through the mail.
Opposed	Summary of spoken comment: This effort is a big waste of taxpayer money.

Open letter to the people who may attend the limited access meeting at the community center at Paradise Valley Park Monday August 10th 2020.

I thank the City Managers office for sending a representative to hear our concerns. Many of us were denied the right to participate in the "live web-conference" process because of the excluding process of either no computer or limited computer equipment. Some people did not know how to download the city's process in order to "register". I feel this exclusion process was planned and rushed thru.

This limited meeting tonight, and others to come, have at least two purposes for us.
-One- is for each person, allowed to attend, to have the right to speak their mind, ask questions and expect truthful answers.
-Two- is to inform the resident owners of Robert E. Lee St. of their rights.

The City Of Phoenix is not the last word in this matter. There is no time limit on correcting the mistakes of this public limiting process.

Other neighborhoods may soon be faced with this same rush to rename their street or other issues the City hopes to rush thru their agendas. If this practice of using the "live web-conference" is allowed to be used as an acceptable means the City may then assume the practice is, by their definition, the "law of the land". No so!

It is our right and duty to reestablish all citizens rights to due process thru the legal process of meetings and forums where all people can attend together and exchange ideas in the presence of each other.

My many years in Maricopa County and the City of phoenix have shown me other issues of deception by some of the City Council members. Deception and lies surrounded the Sumotomo Plant for instance. Promises not kept of sidewalks, street lights and sewers at low cost, are examples of a few. District 2 is much wiser now.

When annexed in 1988 our water bills trippled, same water, same pipes, same well. Seven years ago our street was torn up for new water lines. The street was only patched and the cross street cuts are still a problem to traffic and crumbling. "Whats the hurry"? Our street light at 40th St and Robert E.Lee has been out since Sept 2019, after many calls. "whats the hurry"? We were promised sidewalks as part of annexation 32 years ago. "whats the hurry"? Kids walk to school in the street, people with pets walk in the street, mothers with strollers walk in the street, joggers run in the street. "whats the hurry"? Out fire hydrant was not turned on for six years after installation. "whats the hurry"? Now this name change process is to an emergency?

Why is there a rush using an unconstitutional process to limit access to the few? "whats the hurry"?

ADA installed concrete corners with no sidewalks added on our street? "whats the hurry"?

The city sent me a list of people to contact due to the name change. No promises to pay and a total disclaimer at the end. It was never planned by the city to pay our expenses. Expenses for this name change will go on for many years. What does the city plan for our future expenses? We have been left to do the necessary changes ourselves and our time is not reimbursable. To keep every receipt and send it in is also a cost. Since the City has sole authority to judge these receipts, what is the guarantee of any timely payment? How soon will the city decide to cut us off? I suggest 20 years of no hassle reimbursement and a process of accountability with the city. The city has a long history with District 2 of forgetting their promises.

We did not create this situation and should not be denied our right to just compensation. Our loss of personal time will be felt for many years.

The city has voted themselves the right to claim our votes in the renaming process thru Council action over the past few years. This never passed the smell test. As citizens of Robert E. Lee St. we saw this coming but never saw the process of taking away our voice also thru the use of the rushed "live web-conference" process.

Also what about all mail and package deliveries after the name change? We deserve fair treatment with mail and package delivery uninterrupted for the next 20 years.

The citizens have the right to challenge the city, on many fronts, as we have in the past.

Many of my neighbors understand we are not opposed to a name change but to the process used by the city to limit the citizens input and the unnecessary rush job after all these years. Hold this renaming process until due process can include all citizens as required by the State Constitution and the City Charter. "what is the hurry"?

Who are the people who advanced this "live web-conference"? What is their future agenda for other communities as well? If this process is not stopped the Council may assume it is a form of law and will feel empowered to use it again and again to get their way.

I for one do not accept this type of deceit and it will long be remembered. Remember a previous Council member who lied to us in District 2.

Yes the street name is offensive to some. "What is the rush"? The suggested new names in the city, letters are very offensive to us on Robert E. Lee St. because the city has not displayed any meaning of Freedom or Justice in this unfair "live web-conference" process. There is NO freedom and NO justice in the city's actions against us.

ATTACHMENT C

Street Names Proposed as Alternatives to Robert E. Lee St

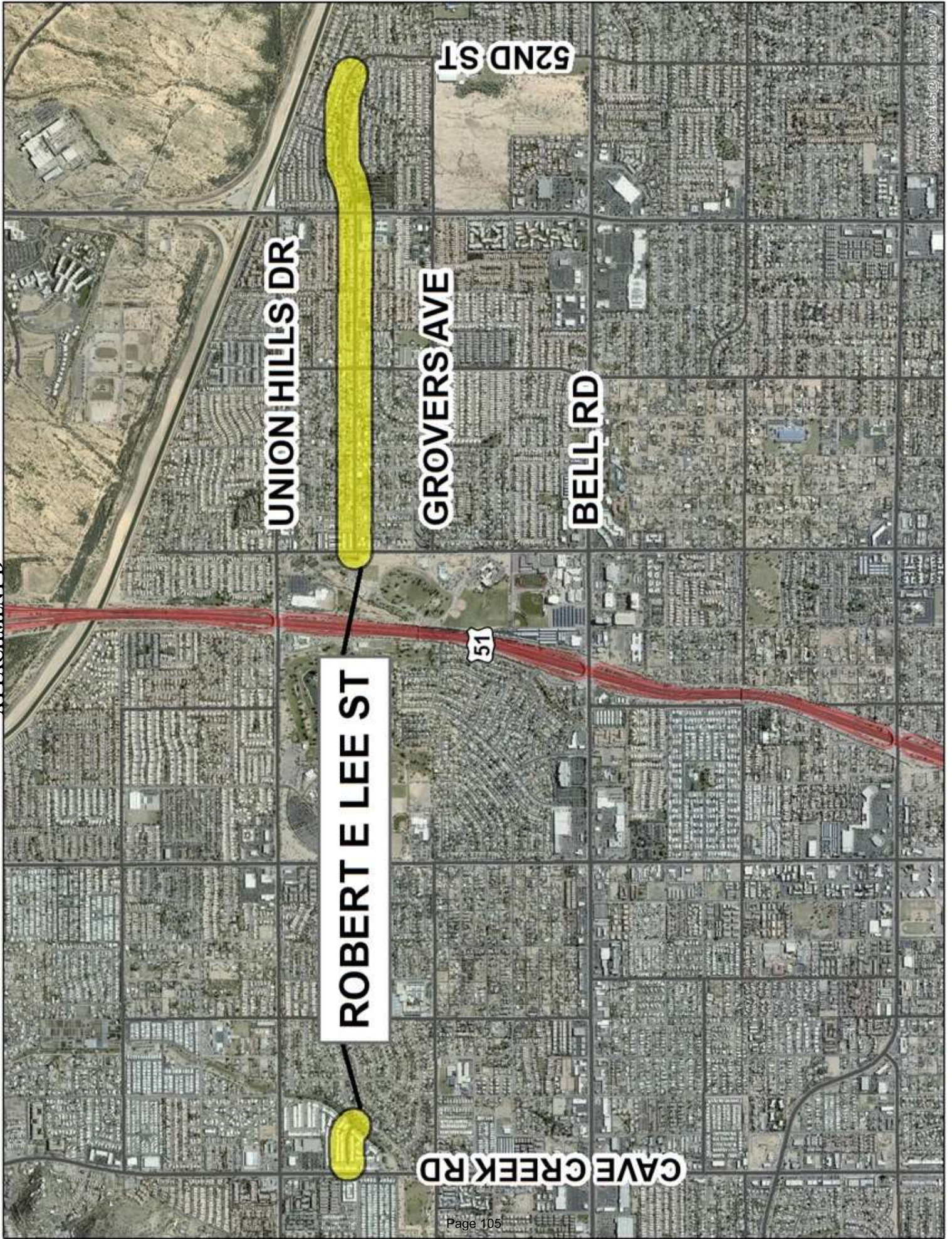
NAMES ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION SUBMITTED BY RESIDENTS OF ROBERT E. LEE ST.	
1	Black Mesa
2	Desert Cactus St.
3	Edge Hill St.
4	Neutral Way
5	North Hills St.

NAMES ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION SUBMITTED BY COMMUNITY	
1	Annie Dodge Wauneka
2	Aves de Arizona
3	Bell's Vireo
4	Blatteroon
5	Bonita Calypse
6	Buffalo Soldier Way
7	Calle de Belleza
8	Calle de Esperanza
9	Calle de la Fortuna
10	Calle de la Paz
11	Calle de Muchos
12	Camino de Montaña
13	Candelabra
14	Carpetbagger
15	Casas de Bien
16	Casas de Bienestar
17	Casas Pacificas
18	Charles Keating IV
19	Fatuous
20	Harriet Street
21	James T Kirk Blvd
22	John Lewis Way
23	John McCain
24	Jordin Sparks Ave.
25	Kaitlyn Dever Blvd.
26	Laurens Road
27	Lincoln Ragsdale
28	Obama Drive
29	Pertinacious
30	Pico del Valle
31	Quisquous
32	Rose Mofford
33	Schadenfreude
34	Schuyler Street
35	Southwest Sun Avenue
36	Surrender
37	Varlet
38	Vista Al Valle

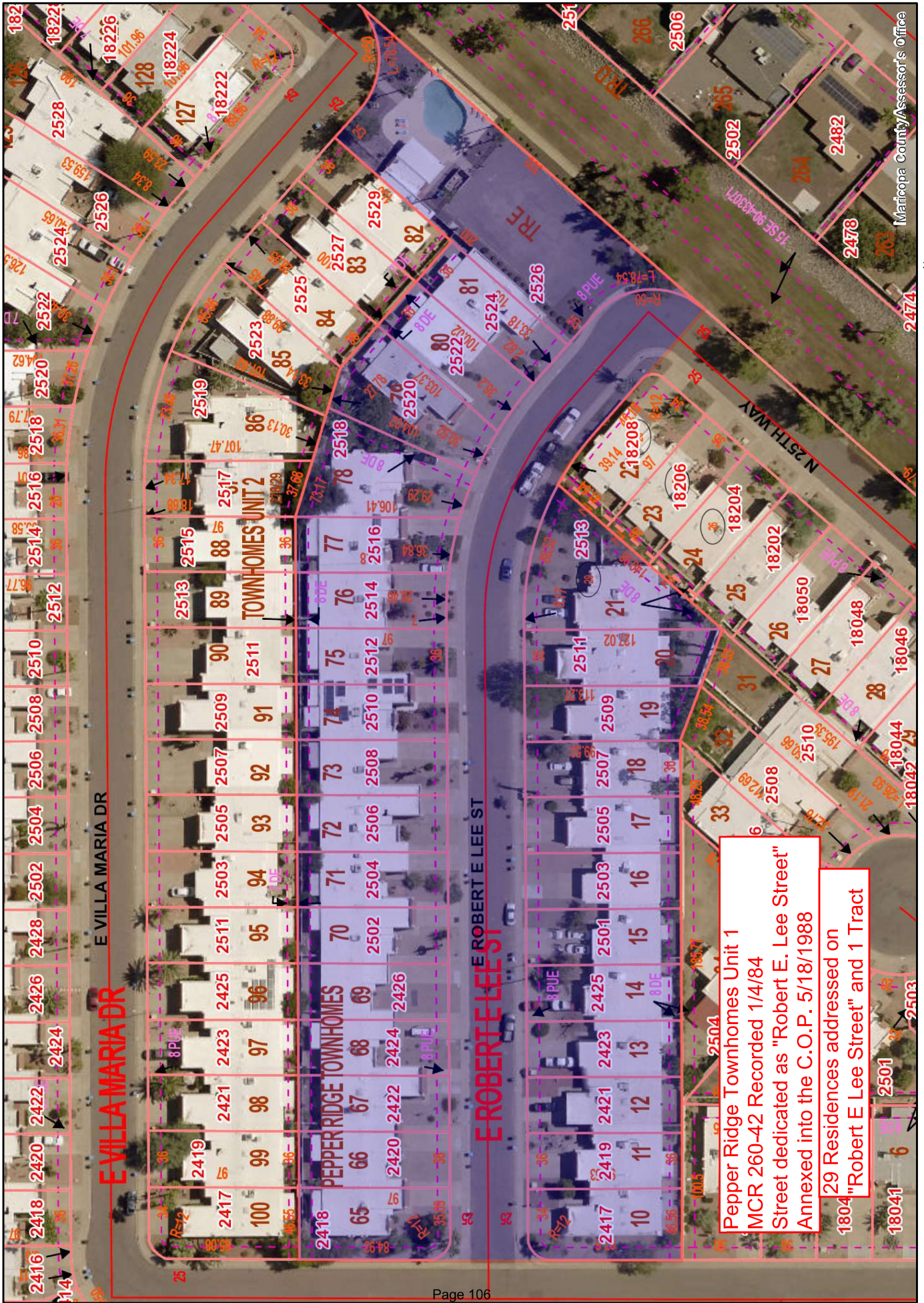
ATTACHMENT C

THE NAMES BELOW ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION DUE TO MATCHING/SIMILAR STREET NAME ALREADY EXISTING IN PHOENIX REGION	
1	Adobe Lane
2	Aloe Lane
3	Annettee
4	Azalea
5	Beale Street
6	Broken Arrow
7	Cesar Chavez Blvd.
8	Charleston
9	Daisy Avenue
10	Desert Hills St.
11	Desert Ridge St.
12	Desert Sage
13	Desert Vista
14	E Street
15	Falcon
16	Foxtail
17	Freedom
18	Hamilton Road
19	Hawk
20	Justice
21	Lafayette Way
22	Lee Street
23	Liberty St.
24	Lily Lane
25	Madison Lane
26	Marquis Street
27	Michelle
28	Michigan
29	Mountain Vista St.
30	Mulligan Drive
31	Pat Tillman
32	Robert Street
33	Roberta
34	Stardust Street
35	Triple Crown Drive
36	Triple Crown Way
37	Villa Maria
38	Villa Rita
39	Villa Theresa
40	Vista Edge
41	Vista Hills

*Five other names were submitted, but were not included as they were deemed ineligible due to being obscene or illegal/controlled substances.



ATTACHMENT E Planning and Development

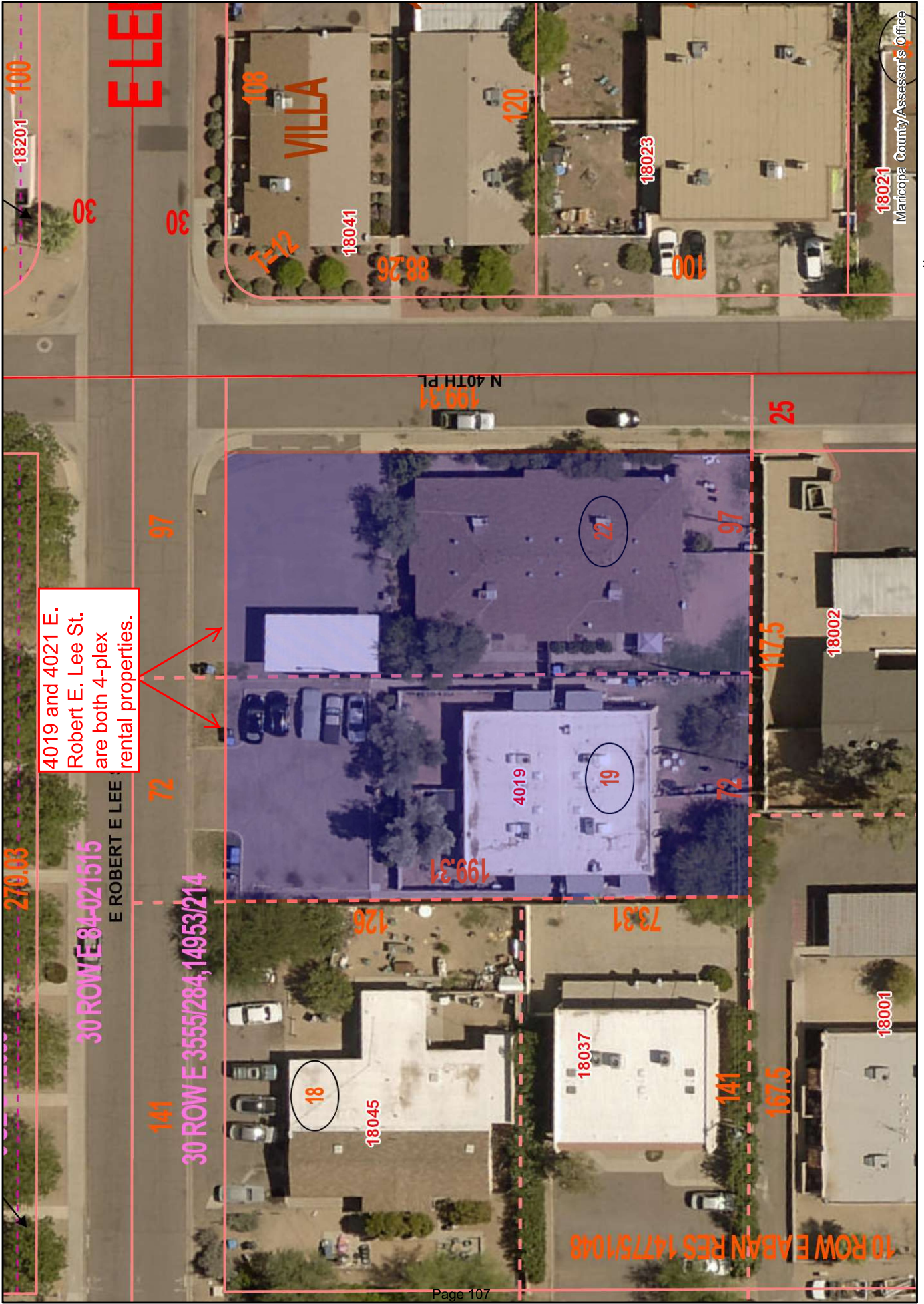


Pepper Ridge Townhomes Unit 1
MCR 260-42 Recorded 1/4/84
Street dedicated as "Robert E. Lee Street"
Annexed into the C.O.P. 5/18/1988

29 Residences addressed on
"Robert E Lee Street" and 1 Tract

Disclaimer: The information provided on this map is based on record drawings submitted by others. Users of this information are cautioned that independent verification of actual conditions may be necessary. Printing Water Data is for Internal Staff Only

Planning and Development



Planning and Development

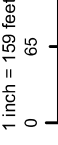
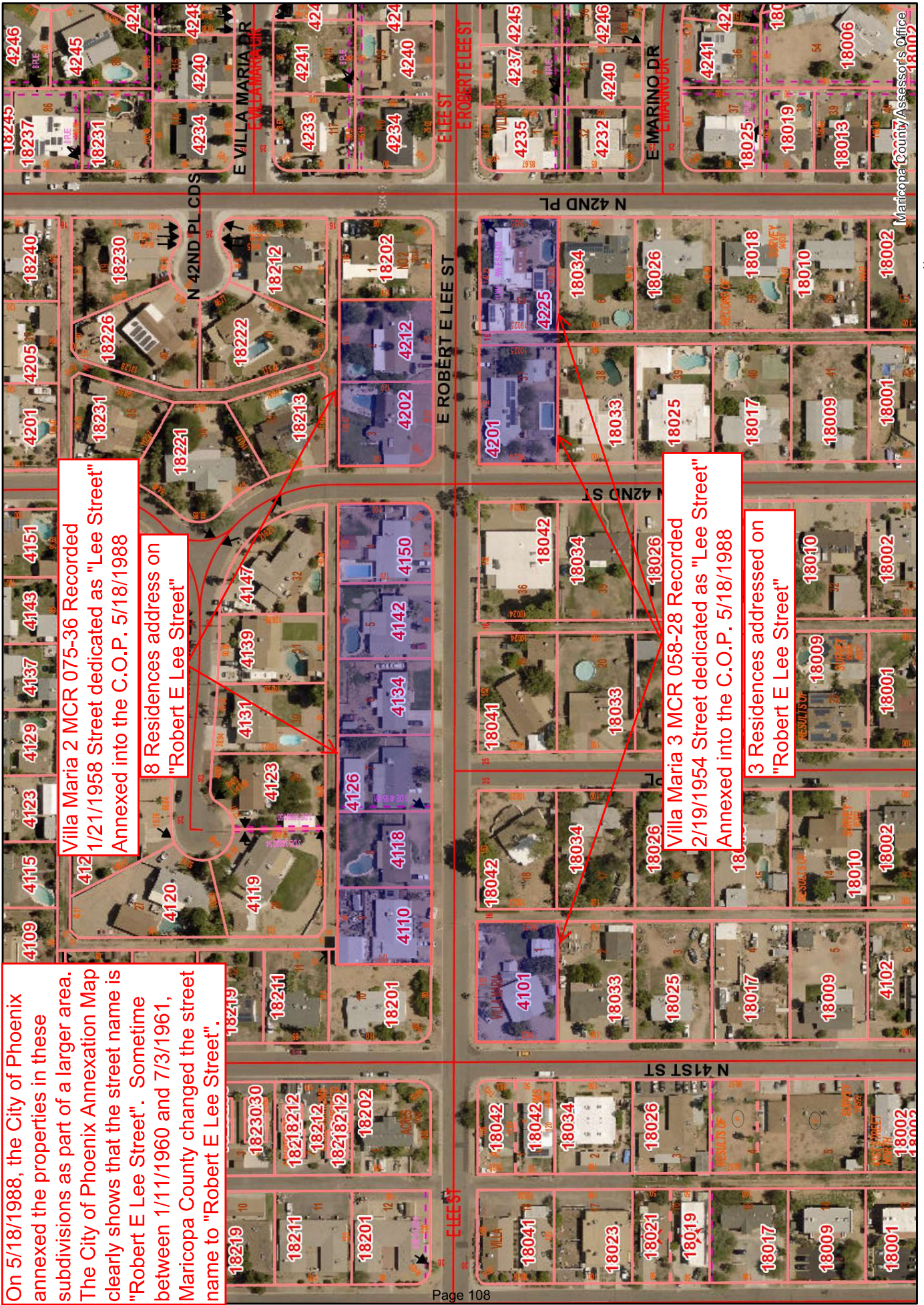
On 5/18/1988, the City of Phoenix annexed the properties in these subdivisions as part of a larger area. The City of Phoenix Annexation Map clearly shows that the street name is "Robert E Lee Street". Sometime between 1/11/1960 and 7/3/1961, Maricopa County changed the street name to "Robert E Lee Street".

Villa Maria 2 MCR 075-36 Recorded 1/21/1958 Street dedicated as "Lee Street" Annexed into the C.O.P. 5/18/1988

8 Residences addressed on "Robert E Lee Street"

Villa Maria 3 MCR 058-28 Recorded 2/19/1954 Street dedicated as "Lee Street" Annexed into the C.O.P. 5/18/1988

3 Residences addressed on "Robert E Lee Street"



Date: 6/23/2020



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Planning and Development

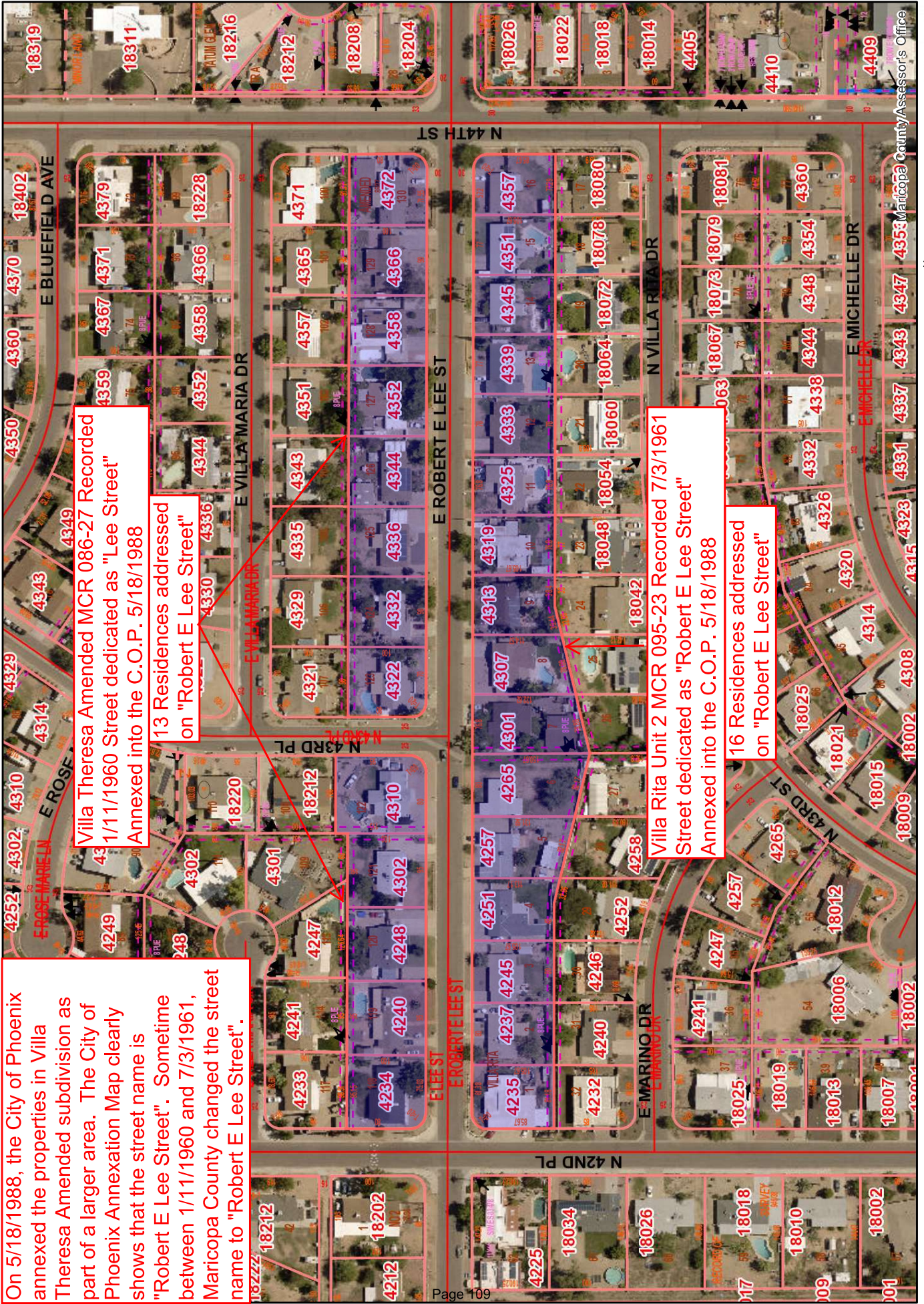
On 5/18/1988, the City of Phoenix annexed the properties in Villa Theresa Amended subdivision as part of a larger area. The City of Phoenix Annexation Map clearly shows that the street name is "Robert E Lee Street". Sometime between 1/11/1960 and 7/3/1961, Maricopa County changed the street name to "Robert E Lee Street".

Villa Theresa Amended MCR 086-27 Recorded 1/11/1960 Street dedicated as "Lee Street" Annexed into the C.O.P. 5/18/1988

13 Residences addressed on "Robert E Lee Street"

Villa Rita Unit 2 MCR 095-23 Recorded 7/3/1961 Street dedicated as "Robert E Lee Street" Annexed into the C.O.P. 5/18/1988

16 Residences addressed on "Robert E Lee Street"

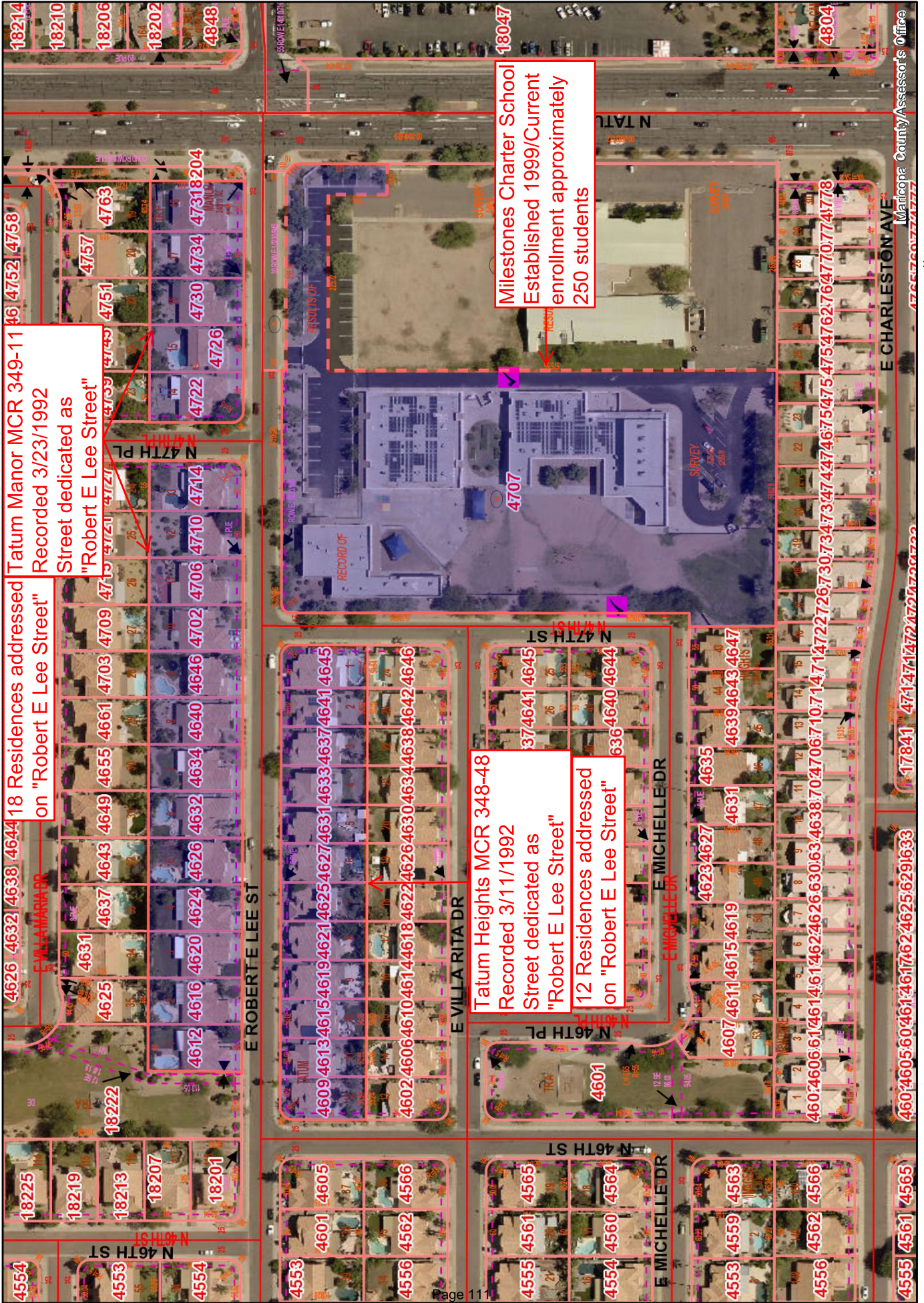


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ATTACHMENT F

COP PDD Logo

Payment Log #: _____
Staff use only

Street Renaming Reimbursement Request

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Phoenix City Council voted on _____ to rename _____. As part of the street renaming process, the City of Phoenix will reimburse costs incurred by residents and businessowners to update their addresses. The reimbursement program covers expenses such as drivers license updates, mailing information changes, and other related costs to update personal or business documents.

STREET RENAMING REIMBURSEMENT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

When applying for reimbursement of costs related to a street renaming project, please submit a complete application packet.

Use this checklist to help you gather what you need to apply for reimbursement.

COMPLETE THE APPLICATION

- ✓ Ensure that the **Project Location** identifies the correct Street Renaming project for which you have incurred costs.
- ✓ Complete the **Application Information** section in its entirety. If the address of your property is not the same as your mailing address, please fill out the mailing address portion.
- ✓ Provide complete information regarding the **Expenses Requested for Reimbursement**.

PROVIDE EXPENSE DOCUMENTATION AND RECEIPTS

- ✓ Gather receipts or payment confirmation documentation for expenses incurred for address changes.
- ✓ Ensure receipts are legible and reflect the company and amount paid.

SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

You may submit your application three different ways:

1. By Mail
Planning and Development Department
Phoenix City Hall
200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85003
2. By Email
Send your application in a PDF format to XXX@phoenix.gov with the subject line, "Street Renaming Reimbursement Request".
3. In Person

Reimbursement requests will be processed with a payment issued within 21 calendar days, of application approval.

For more information or for a copy of this publication in an alternate format, contact Planning & Development at (602) 262-7811 / (602) 534-5500 TTY.

Page 1 of 2

Street Renaming Reimbursement Request

APPLICATION FORM

A. Applicant Information

Applicant: _____ Phone: _____

Property Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____

B. Expenses Requested for Reimbursement

Attach copies of receipts, payment confirmation notifications, or other verifying documentation.

	Amount	Company	Address	City	State	Zip
1	\$					
2	\$					
3	\$					

Total Amount Requested: \$ _____

I hereby request a reimbursement of the costs and expenses relating to the City of Phoenix Street Renaming process for the street noted above.

Signature of Applicant

Date

-----Staff Use Only-----

Application received and logged

By: _____ Date: _____

Approved/Disapproved

By: _____ Date: _____

Payment Issued

By: _____ Date: _____

Vendor # _____ **SAP Document #:** _____