

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 3(A)(2)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 19, 2022

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution approving the City of
Miami's codesignation of that
portion of northeast 59th Street
from North Miami Avenue to
northeast 4th Court as "Viter and
Maria Juste Way"

Resolution No. R-2-22

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Keon Hardemon.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/uw



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 19, 2022

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 3(A)(2)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Statement of social equity required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☒ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) ____ to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 3(A)(2)
1-19-22

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-2-22

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY OF MIAMI'S
CODESIGNATION OF THAT PORTION OF NORTHEAST
59TH STREET FROM NORTH MIAMI AVENUE TO
NORTHEAST 4TH COURT AS "VITER AND MARIA JUSTE
WAY"

WHEREAS, on October 14, 2021, the City of Miami adopted Resolution No. R-21-0431, which codesignated that portion of Northeast 59th Street from North Miami Avenue to Northeast 4th Court as "Viter and Maria Juste Way"; and

WHEREAS, a copy of Resolution No. R-21-0431 is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, Viter Juste ("Mr. Juste") was born on December 15, 1924, and passed away on November 19, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Juste was a Haitian-born American community leader, businessman, and activist who moved to the City of Miami ("City") in 1973 with his wife, Maria Juste ("Mrs. Juste"); and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Juste was born on June 29, 1927, and passed away on December 10, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Juste was born in Cuba but later moved to Haiti before coming to the United States; and

WHEREAS, together, Mr. and Mrs. Juste started their own newspaper business by selling the "*Observateur*", a Haitian newspaper, to the Little Haiti community to keep the community informed on U.S. immigration policies and other news; and

WHEREAS, during the 1980s, Mr. Juste successfully organized and led other community members in advocating against the Miami-Dade School Board’s policy of prohibiting children of undocumented Haitians from attending school, ultimately resulting in the School Board changing its policy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Juste helped found the Haitian American Community Association of Dade, which was one of the first social service organizations founded specifically to cater to the needs of the Haitian community in the City; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Juste also opened Les Cousins records and bookstore on the 7800 block of Northeast Second Avenue, which thrived for more than two (2) decades; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Juste, whom many consider as the father of the City’s Haitian-American community, is said to have coined the name “Little Haiti”, which is the center of the Haitian-American community in Florida; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Juste returned to school to become a Registered Nurse (“RN”) in her mid-60s before working as an RN at the Miami Jewish Hospital, where she inspired and encouraged other Haitian women to get their RN licenses; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Juste was a community activist who also helped to raise funds for Haitian families in need of financial support; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Juste is considered the matriarch of Little Haiti for her contributions to supporting the community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Juste were married for 60 years and were both important figures in supporting the Little Haiti Community in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami would like the County to install signage indicating this codesignation on County street signs and traffic signal masts arms; and

WHEREAS, Northeast 59th Street from North Miami Avenue to Northeast 4th Court is a City-maintained road located in the City; and

WHEREAS, this codesignation is located in County Commission District 3; and

WHEREAS, this Board would also like to honor Mr. and Mrs. Juste by approving the City's codesignation of that portion of Northeast 59th Street from North Miami Avenue to Northeast 4th Court as "Viter and Maria Juste Way",

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

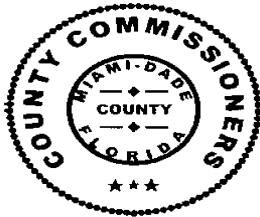
Section 1. Approves the City of Miami's codesignation of that portion of Northeast 59th Street from North Miami Avenue to Northeast 4th Court as "Viter and Maria Juste Way".

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami, the United States Postal Service, the Traffic Signals and Signs Division of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, the Development Services Division of the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department, the City of Miami Fire Rescue Department, and the City of Miami Police Department.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Keon Hardemon. It was offered by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **José "Pepe" Diaz** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman	aye	
Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice-Chairman	aye	
Sen. René García	aye	Keon Hardemon aye
Sally A. Heyman	aye	Danielle Cohen Higgins aye
Eileen Higgins	aye	Joe A. Martinez aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye	Jean Monestime aye
Raquel A. Regalado	aye	Rebeca Sosa aye
Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 19th day of January, 2022. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

Melissa Adames

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

D.P.C

Dale P. Clarke



AGENDA ITEM COVER PAGE

File ID: #10815

Resolution

Sponsored by: Commissioner Jeffrey Watson

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION CO-DESIGNATING NORTHEAST 59TH STREET FROM NORTH MIAMI AVENUE TO NORTHEAST 4TH COURT, MIAMI, FLORIDA AS "VITER AND MARIA JUSTE WAY" PURSUANT TO SECTION 54-137 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, AS AMENDED; FURTHER DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE HEREIN DESIGNATED OFFICIALS.



City of Miami

Legislation

Resolution

City Hall
3500 Pan American Drive
Miami, FL 33133
www.miamigov.com

Enactment Number: R-21-0431

File Number: 10815

Final Action Date: 10/14/2021

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION CO-DESIGNATING NORTHEAST 59TH STREET FROM NORTH MIAMI AVENUE TO NORTHEAST 4TH COURT, MIAMI, FLORIDA AS “VITER AND MARIA JUSTE WAY” PURSUANT TO SECTION 54-137 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, AS AMENDED; FURTHER DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE HEREIN DESIGNATED OFFICIALS.

WHEREAS, Viter Juste (“Mr. Juste”) was born on December 15, 1924 and passed away on November 19, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Juste was a Haitian-born American community leader, businessman, and activist who moved to the City of Miami (“City”) in 1973 with his wife, Maria Juste (“Ms. Juste”); and

WHEREAS, Ms. Juste was born on June 29, 1927 and passed away on December 10, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Juste was born in Cuba but later moved to Haiti before coming to the United States; and

WHEREAS, together, Mr. and Ms. Juste started their own newspaper business by selling the “*Observateur*”, a Haitian newspaper, to the Little Haiti community to keep the community informed on U.S. immigration policies and other news; and

WHEREAS, during the 1980’s, Mr. Juste successfully organized and led other community members in advocating against the Miami-Dade School Board’s policy of prohibiting children of undocumented Haitians from attending school, ultimately resulting in the School Board changing its policy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Juste helped found the Haitian American Community Association of Dade, which was one of the first social service organizations founded specifically to cater to the needs of the Haitian community in the City; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Juste also opened Les Cousins records and bookstore on the 7800 block of Northeast Second Avenue, which thrived for more than two (2) decades; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Juste—who is considered the father of the City’s Haitian American community—coined the name “Little Haiti”, which is the center of the Haitian American community in Florida; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Juste returned to school to become a Registered Nurse (“RN”) in her mid-60’s before working as an RN at the Miami Jewish Hospital where she inspired and encouraged other Haitian women to get their RN licenses; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Juste was a community activist who also helped to raise funds for Haitian families in need of financial support; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Juste is considered the matriarch of Little Haiti for all of her contributions to supporting the community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Ms. Juste married for 60 years and were both important figures in supporting the Little Haiti Community in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City would like to honor Mr. and Ms. Juste by co-designating Northeast 59th Street from North Miami Avenue to Northeast 4th Court, Miami, Florida as "Viter and Maria Juste Way";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA:

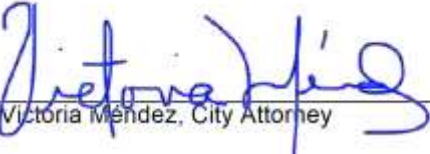
Section 1. The recitals and findings contained in the Preamble to this Resolution are adopted by reference and incorporated as if fully set forth in this Section.

Section 2. The City Commission co-designates that portion within the City's limits of Northeast 59th Street from North Miami Avenue to Northeast 4th Court, Miami, Florida as "Viter and Maria Juste Way".

Section 3. The City Clerk is directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Departments of Police, Fire-Rescue, and Solid Waste; the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works; the Miami-Dade County Commissioner of District 3; the United States Postal Service; and, if a State of Florida road, to the Florida Department of Transportation, District Six, for sign installation within the newly designated roadway.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:


Victoria Méndez, City Attorney 10/1/2021

From: Winnick
To: [Watson, Jeffrey \(Commissioner\)](#); [Stanley, Samantha](#)
Cc: [Uncle Phillpe](#)
Subject: Fwd: Mr. Viter & Maria Juste Links And Info
Date: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 2:05:35 PM

CAUTION: This is an email from an external source. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Samantha,

Here is a short bio that I put together on my Grandmother!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Winnick Blain** <winnick.blain-ext@jci.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 29, 2021 at 2:00 PM
Subject: Mr. Viter & Maria Juste Links And Info
To: eclipse31@gmail.com <eclipse31@gmail.com>

Link for Mr. Viter Juste

[Viter Juste, AKA Pere Juste, the Father of Little Haiti in Miami died at the age of 87 \(haitiobserver.com\)](#)

[Viter Juste, Haitian community pioneer and leader, dies at 87 | Merced Sun-Star \(mercedsunstar.com\)](#)

[Viter and Maria Juste - Google Search](#)

Mrs. Maria Juste

Maria Juste was considered the “matriarch of Little Haiti” due to her contributes and support that she gave to the community and too her late husband Viter Juste. She was born in Cuba on June 29, 1927 and moved to Haiti later on as she became older women. Maria Juste was the backbone of the Juste family as well as the backbone of Little Haiti. When Maria and Viter Juste arrived in Miami in 1973 from New York, they both started their own newspaper business by reselling a Haitian Newspaper called source “**Observateur**” to the Little Haitian community. The reason was to keep the Haitian community informed on what the US government was doing regarding Immigration laws and the miss treatment of Haitian Immigrants in the United States. When it came to the planning of organizations (HACAD), community protesting, community events and business decisions in regards to Little Haiti, my

Grandfather would have to run it by Maria Juste first.

She supported and attended *Norte Dame and St Mary's Cathedral Church* the entire time while living in Little Haiti. In her mid-60's she decided to return back to school and soon received her registered nurse license (RN) and worked at the Miami Jewish Hospital taking care of old Jewish patients that were there. Because of this she was able to and encourage and open the door for there Haitian women to get there RN license and come work for the Jewish Hospital. Overall Maria Juste found ways to raise money for Haitian families that need financial help when it came to them in need of financial support. Maria Juste was well known and well respected throughout the city of Miami, she that loved her family and supported her community before passing away in December 10, 2008.

Winnick Blain

Sr. Desktop Support Engineer

Information Technology

Winnick.Blain-ext@jci.com

Johnson Controls Inc.

[15901 SW 29th Street](#)

[Suite 801](#)

[Miramar, FL 33027](#)

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Viter Juste was a Haitian-born American community leader, businessman, and activist. When Juste and his wife Maria, arrived in Miami in 1973 from New York, they started their own newspaper business by reselling a Haitian Newspaper called source “Observateur” to the Little Haitian community. In the 1980s, Juste and other community members objected to the Miami-Dade School Board’s policy of prohibiting children of undocumented Haitians from attending school, resulting in the policy being changed. Juste also helped found the Haitian American Community Association of Dade, opened the Les Cousins record and bookstore in the 7800 block of Northeast Second Avenue, which thrived for more than two decades.

In her mid-60’s Maria decided to return back to school to become a registered nurse (RN). Working at the Miami Jewish Hospital allowed her to encourage other Haitian women to get their RN license as well. While Juste was the activist in the community, Maria found ways to raise money for Haitian families that needed financial support. Juste coined the name, "Little Haiti," for the neighborhood in Miami, Florida which is a center of the Haitian American community in Florida. He is considered the father of the Haitian American community in Miami.

Sources:

<https://miami.cbslocal.com/2012/11/20/activist-who-gave-name-little-haiti-its-name/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viter_Juste