

RESOLUTION NO. 17- 39

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THAT PORTION OF I-375/S.R. 592 BETWEEN I-275 AND S.R. 595/4TH AVENUE AS THE C. BETTE WIMBISH HIGHWAY.

WHEREAS, Mrs. Carrie Elizabeth “C. Bette” Wimbish was a civil rights leader for the African-American community who became the first African-American female attorney in Pinellas County and the third in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wimbish was the first African-American citizen elected to the St. Petersburg City Council and the first African American Vice-Mayor; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wimbish fought against the injustices of segregation in public schools in an effort to obtain the same rights to fair and equal education for all students by challenging the school board for continuing integration after laws passed to outlaw the practice; and

WHEREAS, Governor Reuben Askew appointed Mrs. Wimbish to Assistant Secretary of Commerce, making her the second highest ranking woman in state government at the time before being appointed to Deputy Secretary of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature successfully passed Senate Bill 368 during the 2017 Legislative Session that designates the portion of I-375/S.R. 592 between I-275 and S.R. 595/4th Avenue as “C. Bette Wimbish Highway;” and

WHEREAS, Section 334.071, Florida Statutes, requires a resolution of support from the County Commission before markers may be placed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County, Florida, at a duly-assembled meeting held on this 18th day of July 2017, that it supports the designation of the portion of I-375/S.R. 592 between I-275 and S.R. 595/4th Avenue as “C. Bette Wimbish Highway,” and requests that the Florida Department of Transportation place and maintain appropriate markers designating said highway; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be made part of the minutes of the proceedings of this Board, and that a certified copy thereof be filed for record in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Pinellas County, Florida.

Commissioner Welch offered the foregoing Resolution and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Commissioner Gerard, and upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: Long, Welch, Eggers, Gerard, Justice, and Seel.

Nays: None.

Absent and not voting: Morroni.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: Christy Doraan Pembert
Office of the County Attorney