Committee on Transportation and Public Way City Council Meeting December 13, 2023 Alderman Brendan Reilly, 42nd Ward Rose Fay Thomas Honorary Street Sign

ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago takes great pride in recognizing individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the welfare of our community, both human and animal alike; and

WHEREAS, Our goal is to honor Rose Fay Thomas, a visionary and the extraordinary woman who established The Anti-Cruelty Society in 1899; and

WHEREAS, The Anti-Cruelty Society has been located at the intersection of West Grand Avenue and North LaSalle Drive since 1911, where the organization remains a steadfast advocate for the well-being of animals; and

WHEREAS, Rose Fay Thomas, a pioneer in the field, was deeply passionate about the abolition of cruelty toward animals, specifically working horses, and demonstrated her commitment by convening a small group of ladies in January 1899 to organize what would evolve into The Anti-Cruelty Society; and

WHEREAS, Two months later, in March 1899, by-laws were adopted, and Rose Fay Thomas was appointed president, becoming one of the first women to head a Humane Society in the country, leaving an indelible mark on the history of animal welfare; and

WHEREAS, The legacy of Rose Fay Thomas lives on 125 years later through The Anti-Cruelty Society's mission of building healthy and happy community where pets and people thrive; and

WHEREAS, The comprehensive programs and services provided by The Anti-Cruelty Society positively impact over 20,000 animals and humans each year; and

WHEREAS, These programs consist of adoption services, a community care veterinary clinic, a low or no-cost spay/neuter clinic, cruelty investigations and rescue, humane education & community outreach, a free behavior helpline, Pop-up Pet Food Pantry program, S.A.F.E. program (short-term accommodations for emergencies), the Bruckner Rehabilitation & Treatment Center, the Virginia Butts Berger Cat Clinic, and the Dog Rehabilitation Center; and

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago wishes to recognize and honor Rose Fay Thomas's enduring legacy and the ongoing contributions of The Anti-Cruelty Society; now, therefore:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. Pursuant to Section 2-8-040 of the Municipal Code of Chicago, which permits the erection of honorary street-name designations, the Commissioner of Transportation shall take all necessary action for standardization of the south side of West Grand Avenue, from North LaSalle Drive to North Clark Street as "Rose Fay Thomas Way."

SECTION 2. This ordinance is effective upon passage and publication.

BRENDAN REILLY Alderman, 42nd Ward



South side of West Grand Avenue, between North LaSalle Drive and North Clark Street