



Rossana Rodríguez-Sánchez
Alderman, 33rd Ward

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January 12, 2024

Office of Budget and Management

121 North LaSalle, Room 604

Chicago, Illinois 60602

RE: Honorary Street-Name Signs {Shel Silverstein Way} - Ordinance

To Whom It May Concern,

I, Rossana Rodriguez-Sanchez Alderman of the 33rd Ward, hereby authorize the Office of Budget Management to withdraw the funds associated with the cost of installation for this honorary street designation for Shel Silverstein Way from my:

Ward's annual menu program budget

upon passage of this designation ordinance, pursuant to Section 2-8-040 of the Chicago Municipal Code.

Sincerely,

Rossana Rodriguez-Sanchez
Alderman, 33rd Ward

ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, Sheldon Allan Silverstein, also known as Shel Silverstein, was born on September 25th, 1930 in Chicago, Illinois. He grew up in the Logan Square neighborhood of Chicago and attended Theodore Roosevelt High School in the Albany Park neighborhood. He attended the University of Illinois and the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts for one semester before being drafted into the U.S. Army and serving in Japan and Korea. Silverstein was a writer, poet, and creative with many famous works including “Where the Sidewalk Ends” and “The Giving Tree”.

WHEREAS, Shel Silverstein is well known for his children's books, he is also famous for song writing. In 1969, Silverstein wrote the Johnny Cash Billboard hit, “A Boy Named Sue”. Amongst his composing works, he has also worked on illustrations and adult-oriented books like, “Uncle Shelby’s ABZ Book”. Silverstein was the recipient of two Grammy Awards and nominations at the Golden Globes and Academy Awards.

WHEREAS, Shel Silverstein was first published in the “Roosevelt Torch” while he attended Roosevelt University. His cartoons were also published while he was serving in the military. When he returned to Chicago, Silverstein would submit cartoons to magazines while working selling hot dogs at Chicago ballparks.

WHEREAS, Shel Silverstein never married, but he had a daughter named Shoshanna on June 30th, 1970. On April 24th, 1982, Shoshanna died from a cerebral aneurysm at the age of 11. His book, “A Light in The Attic” is dedicated to his daughter.

WHEREAS, Silverstein is a talented writer and illustrator, he also showed the world that he has the versatility to compose and write music for films, artists, and theaters.

WHEREAS, Silverstein died on May 10th, 1990 at the age of 68 from a heart attack. He died in his home in Key West, Florida. He left an impact on artists, writers, educators, and creatives in Chicago and all over the world. Because of his artistic impact and his status as an alumni of a Chicago highschool, Shel Silverstein is nominated as an Honorary Street sign in the 33rd ward.

WHEREAS, After his death, Silverstein was inducted in Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2002. In 2014, Shel Silverstein was inducted into the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame.

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

SECTION 1. Pursuant to an ordinance heretofore passed by the City Council which allows

erection of honorary street-name signs, the Commissioner of Transportation shall take the necessary action for standardization of: The Northwest corner of North Kimball Avenue and West Wilson Avenue to the Southeast corner of West Wilson and North Saint Louis Avenue as "Shel Silverstein Way".

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication.



Rossana Rodriguez-Sanchez
Alderman, 33rd Ward

Shel Silverstein Honorary Sign Map

Sign Locations



Shel Silverstein Sign



Shel Silverstein Sign

