

## ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, in 1954, Bruce and Myles Lemons introduced the flavors of Mississippi Delta-style barbecue to Chicago with the establishment of Lem's Bar-B-Q House on the south side; and

WHEREAS, spanning seven decades, Lem's Bar-B-Q House has been a pillar of Chicago's culinary scene, offering the finest rib tips and hot links reminiscent of their hometown, Indianola, Mississippi, nestled in the heart of the Delta region. Since relocating to Chicago in the 1940s, the brothers harbored a dream of recreating the authentic taste of their roots. Myles, skilled in culinary arts, crafted Lem's Original Bar-B-Q sauce, a proprietary blend of secret spices, which has enamored barbecue enthusiasts for over sixty years; and

WHEREAS, utilizing the time-honored open-pit cooking method, their renowned rib tips and hot links acquire rich, complex flavors, marrying the robust essence of charcoal and hickory smoke with the subtle sweetness of pork. This is achieved through the utilization of a locally-crafted smoker, known as the "Aquarium Pit," distinguished by its thick tempered glass sliding doors, facilitating meat access while preventing filling the kitchen with smoke; and

WHEREAS, the resounding success of the original establishment prompted James, another brother trained in the culinary arts, to establish a second Lem's Bar-B-Q House in the historic Chatham Neighborhood by 1963. However, today only the original Lem's Bar-B-Q House on 75th Street remains, faithfully upholding the tradition of Mississippi Delta-style barbecue; 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 allows erection of honorary street name designations, the Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Transportation shall take the necessary action for standardization of East 75<sup>th</sup> Street, between South Prairie Avenue and South Calumet Ave, as “Honorary Lem’s Bar-B-Q House Way.”
- Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication.

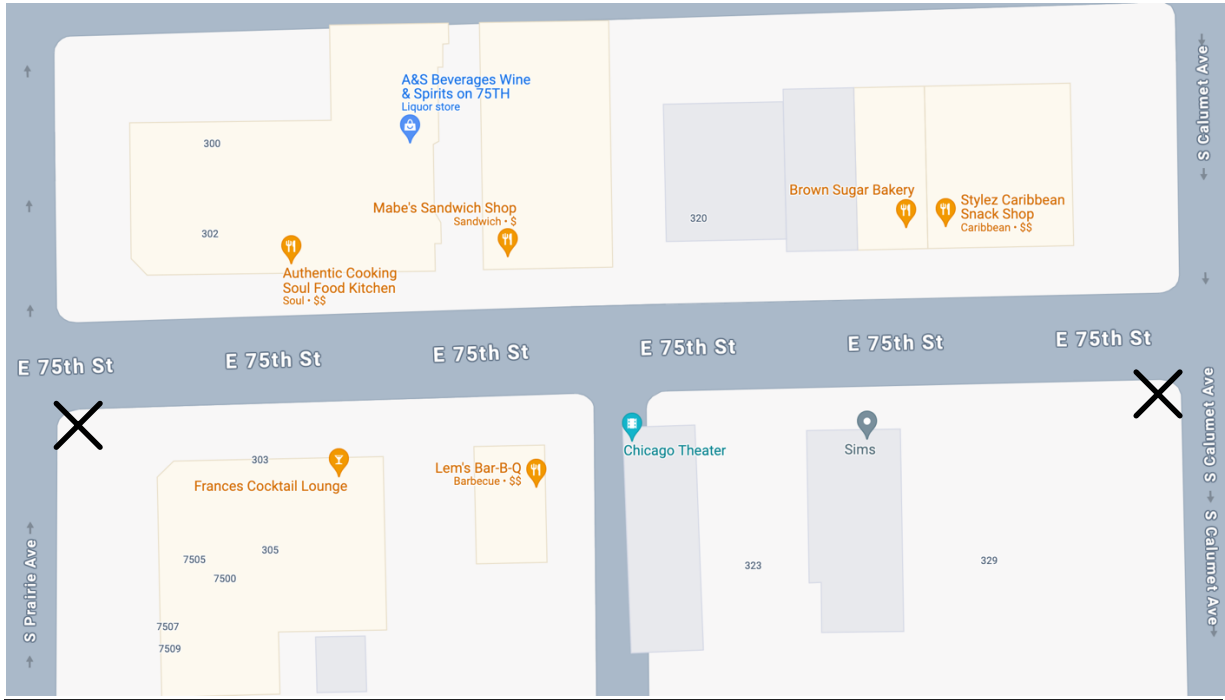
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WILLIAM E. HALL  
Alderman – 6<sup>th</sup> Ward

**REASON FOR HONORING**

Lem's Bar-B-Que House has been the Chatham neighborhoods most iconic eatery for 70 years.

**MAP**



March 20, 2023

Office of Budget and Management  
121 N. LaSalle, Room 604  
Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I, William E. Hall, Alderman of the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward, hereby authorize the Office of Budget Management to withdraw the funds associated with the cost of installation for this honorary street designation for Lem's Bar-B-Que House Way from my Ward's annual menu program budget upon passage of this honorary street designation ordinance, pursuant to Section 2-8-040 of the Chicago Municipal Code.

Sincerely,

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William E. Hall  
Alderman, Ward 6