

MOTION

PUBLIC WORKS

The Rose of Sharon Missionary Baptist Church is a legendary place of worship in South Los Angeles that has served as an integral part of the community for sixty-five years and counting. The Rose of Sharon was founded in September 1957 by Reverend John L. Railback and former members of the Independent Baptist Church who've developed a vision for a new center where the Lord and community can meet as one, as the area had particularly become a hotbed for youth ministries.

The Church's name came from the scripture in Song of Solomon 2:1; "I am the rose of Sharon and the lily of the Valleys". Since its inception, The Rose of Sharon has been an Evangelistic Church with a main emphasis on missionary work and adding souls to the Kingdom of God.

The Agape Christian Community Center, a non-profit founded by Reverend Railback and First Lady Jean H. Railback in 1978, was created to provide services for the community of South Central LA. The support towards the community encompasses job training and referral services, family counseling, literacy and education programs, emergency food and clothing assistance, nutrition and health programs, parenting empowerment training, recreation activities for youth and housing for those of the poverty-level.

The successes of Agape came with an expansion throughout the fellowship into several areas of serving the community. Agape Home Services was created to provide shelter for women and children including food, clothes, advocacy with public assistance agencies and permanent affordable housing. Additionally from 1990-2019, Agape established the "Vouchers and Tokens" program in - providing low-income individuals with the distribution of taxi vouchers and bus tokens. Agape was also heavily involved in serving the youth population through sponsoring thousands of children to attend fellowship retreats and giving them opportunities to enjoy field trips to amusement parks and other local festivities.

In recognition of the contributions that Reverend John L. Railback and First Lady Jean H. Railback have provided to City residents for decades and to ensure that this piece of Los Angeles, spiritual, and Black history be preserved, it is appropriate that the City name the intersection of Hoover Street and 52nd Street as the "John and Jean Railback Square".

JB

I THEREFORE MOVE that the intersection of Hoover Street and 52nd Street be named as "John and Jean Railback Square" and that the Department of Transportation be directed to erect permanent ceremonial sign(s) to this effect at this location.

PRESENTED BY

Curren D. Price, Jr.
CURREN D. PRICE, JR.

Councilmember, 9th District

SECONDED BY:

Heath Hall

JAN 30 2024

ORIGINAL