

**MEMPHIS AND SHELBY COUNTY OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
STAFF REPORT # 4**

CASE NUMBER: SNC 08-802 **L.U.C.B. MEETING:** December 11, 2008

STREET NAME: Moore Road to Smythe Road

LOCATION: Moore Road; beginning at Germantown Parkway & ending @ Walnut Grove Road

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 9

SUPER DISTRICT: 2

OWNER OF RECORD / APPLICANT: Agricenter International/Shelby County Government

REPRESENTATIVE: John Charles Wilson

REQUEST: Street name change from Moore Road to Smythe Farm Road

LENGTH: One (1) mile

EXISTING LAND USE & ZONING: Street right-of-way ~ Agricultural (AG) District

SURROUNDING LAND USE & ZONING:

North: Shelby Farms ~ Agricultural (AG) District

East: Commercial uses ~ Planned Commercial (C-P) District

South: Shelby Farms ~ Agricultural (AG) District

West: Shelby Farms ~ Agricultural (AG) District

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATION:

Approval with Conditions

Staff Writer: Carlos B. McCloud

E-mail Address: carlos.mccloud@memphistn.gov

CONCLUSIONS

1. The request is a street name change from Moore Road to Smythe Farm Road. This request is being made to honor one of the founders of Agricenter International for his achievements and community involvement in Shelby County as a business leader and civic volunteer.
2. In the spring of 1979, several Memphis business leaders began evaluating the feasibility of establishing an “Agricenter” in Memphis. Ned Cook of Cook Industries, Hamilton Smythe III of Yellow Cab Company, B. Lee Mallory of Memphis Compress and Storage, John Barringer of Barringer Cotton Company, Robert Booth of Commercial & Industrials Bank, and a number of others began serious planning of what an “Agricenter” could be and what economic importance such a center would have for Memphis, the Mid South and the United States.
3. Mr. Ham Smythe, as a leader and promoter of this one-half billion dollar economic generator, has served as the Chairman of the Shelby County Agricenter Commission for the entire span of operations from conception to today.



STAFF ANALYSIS

This section of Moore Road is located south of Walnut Grove Road and west of Germantown Parkway within the Agricenter International. There are approximately four (4) businesses located along this right-of-way which are all agriculturally related businesses. Agricenter International contains approximately one thousand (1,000) acres south of Walnut Grove. The request is for a street name change from Moore Road to Smythe Farm Road. This request is being made to honor one of the founders of Agricenter International for his achievements and community involvement in Shelby County as a business leader and civic volunteer.

In the spring of 1979, several Memphis business leaders began evaluating the feasibility of establishing an “Agricenter” in Memphis. Ned Cook of Cook Industries, Hamilton Smythe III of Yellow Cab Company, B. Lee Mallory of Memphis Compress and Storage, John Barringer of Barringer Cotton Company, Robert Booth of Commercial & Industrials Bank, and a number of others began serious planning of what an “Agricenter” could be and what economic importance such a center would have for Memphis, the Mid South and the United States. Through the work of these leaders, Governor Lamar Alexander and Shelby County Government, Agricenter International was created.

In April 2004, the Board of Directors of Agricenter International commissioned Younger Associates of Jackson, TN, a full-service marketing, advertising, and economic development consulting firm to research the impact of Agricenter International’s operations on the economy of Shelby County. The overall impact of Agricenter International and the business entities operating as tenants within its facilities exceeds \$524.3 million annually. Mr. Ham Smythe, as a leader and promoter of this one-half billion dollar economic generator, has served as the Chairman of the Shelby County Agricenter Commission for the entire span of operations from conception to today. Mr. Smythe’s leadership has taken Agricenter from an economic drain on the County to a facility operating fully in the black. While handling the enormity of Agricenter he still found time to successfully run his own business Yellow Cab & Premier Transportation and, serve on many business and civic organizations.

Business:

- Current Chairman of Southern Transportation Co.
- President of Paratransit Insurance Company.
- Past President International Taxicab Association
- Past Chairman International Taxicab Association

Civic:

- Chairman, Shelby County Agricenter Commission
- Founder and Past President, Boys & Girls Clubs of Memphis
- Founder and Past Board Chairman, Porter Leath Children's Center
- Founder and Past President, Phoenix Club
- Memphis Convention & Visitors Bureau (First Chairman following split from C of C)
- Past Chairman, Memphis Arts Council (not founder)
- Founder, Wolf River Society
- Past Board Member, Baptist Memorial Healthcare Foundation
- Past Commodore, Memphis Yacht Club (Commodore)
- Vestry, Grace St Luke's Episcopal Church
- Past Chairman, Grace St Luke's Episcopal School
- Serves on the Shelby Farms Conservancy Board of Directors

Changing a street name requires that written public notice be given to all abutting property owners along the street in question. Reviewing and approving street names is not an isolated activity. The MLG & W Address Assignment Department works closely with the U.S. Postal Service and the Shelby County Emergency Communications (E-911) on an ongoing basis to make sure addresses and street names are clear and concise for postal carriers and emergency personnel. While an honorary street name change would be less disruptive since it would not require the printing of new business stationery or changing directory listings such as the Yellow Pages or street sign blades, a permanent street name change can be approved by the City Council as well.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

L.U.C.B. CONDITIONS:

1. The street name change shall take effect sixty (60) days after approval by the City Council.
2. The applicant shall be responsible for replacing all street name sign blades affected by this change and for all applicable fees charged by M LG & W for address re-assignments.
3. The House Numbers/Address Assignment Section of the Memphis Light, Gas and Water Division shall notify the current property owners along of Moore Road of the name change and its effective date.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Planning District:	Shelby Farms-Germantown
Census Tract:	212
Municipal Annexation Reserve Area:	Memphis City Limits
Intersecting Streets:	Moore Road/Germantown Road & Moore Road/Walnut Grove Road
Zoning Atlas Page:	2050
Parcel ID:	089023 00001

DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTS:

The following comments were provided by agencies to which this application was referred:

City Engineer:	No objections to this request.
City Fire Division:	No comments received.
City Real Estate:	None.
City/County Health Department:	No comment.
City Board of Education:	

The subject property does not appear to be adjacent to any property which has been identified as belonging to Memphis City Schools (MCS). No identifiable impact on MCS' school-aged population nor MCS' property interests. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Construction Code Enforcement:	No comments received.
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Memphis Light, Gas, and Water:

MLGW has reviewed the referenced application and has rejected the street name change application. MLGW cannot approve the use of a proper name, based on the current street naming guidelines, coupled with the opinion from the office of the Shelby County Attorney, see attachment.

Please contact Ms. Sherra Russell, with MLGW @ 528-4628 with any questions.

AT&T / Millington Telephone:	AT&T has no comment.
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Memphis Area Transit Authority (MATA): No comments received.

OPD-Regional Services:

This application was reviewed by the MPO staff/Department of Regional Services on November 12, 2008. The MPO staff has determined that the proposed actions as submitted in this application will have no affect on the MPO Long Range Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, or any other plan, document, program or initiative of this department/organization.

OPD-Plans Development: No comments.

911 System: No comments received.

Neighborhood Associations: None contacted.

SW: C.Mc