



**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

17 JAN 24 PM 12:18

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TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Councilman Cris Medina, District 7

COPIES TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Leticia Vacek, City Clerk; Andy Segovia, City Attorney; John Peterek, Assistant to the City Manager; Christopher Callanen, Assistant to City Council

SUBJECT: Designation of a Memorial Way on W. Woodlawn to Archbishop Patrick Flores Memorial Way from N. Zarzamora to Bandera Rd.

DATE: January 19, 2017

Issue Proposed for Consideration

I ask for your support for the inclusion of the following item on the agenda of the earliest available meeting of the Governance Committee:

The designation of "Archbishop Patrick Flores Memorial Way" on W. Woodlawn from N. Zarzamora to Bandera Rd.

Brief Background

This week, San Antonio lost one of its leading icons with the passing of Archbishop Patrick Flores.

In 1970, he became the first Mexican-American in the nation to be named a bishop and 10,000 of the faithful attended his installation right here in San Antonio. In 1979, Patrick Flores was elevated to Archbishop of the Archdiocese of San Antonio. His role as spiritual leader in our community would be enough to establish his legacy, but his work went far beyond the four walls of a church building.

Flores was also appointed chairman of the Texas State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in 1970. Later that same year, he became national chaplain for LULAC.

In 1974, he was instrumental in the founding of C.O.P.S. (Communities Organized for Public Service), a grassroots organization that helped people improve their neighborhoods.

In 1980, Archbishop Flores became a member of the Hispanic Caucus Committee, and in 1981, he founded Catholic Television of San Antonio, the first diocesan television station in the United



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States. In 1997, when Billy Graham headlined a religious crusade at the Alamodome, Flores taped radio spots in English and Spanish to promote the event. Graham later credited Flores for the large response from the area's largely Catholic Hispanic community.

Thousands were able to attend college through the National Hispanic Scholarship Fund he established. He raised money to make Bibles available to all inmates in Texas jails and prisons. He worked to bring Pope John Paul II to San Antonio. And, in 1987, he celebrated mass at the pontiff's side before thousands at Westover Hills.

The "People's Archbishop" was also known as the "Mariachi Bishop," as he would often sing to raise money or to celebrate, something did at his 75th birthday party.

When he retired in 2005 after serving as archbishop for 25 years, he was clear about his proudest accomplishment: "Helping people erase discrimination. We should not let our difference divide us, but enrich us."

As this section of W. Woodlawn is in the heart of District 7 and is home to the Archdiocese of San Antonio and because of Archbishop Patrick Flores' humility, generosity, accomplishments, and his commitment to being a shepherd to our community, I now call on my colleagues on the council to join me in supporting the designating of W. Woodlawn "Archbishop Patrick Flores Memorial Way" from N. Zarzamora to Bandera Rd.

Submitted for Council consideration by:

Councilman Cris Medina, District 7

Supporting Councilmembers' Signatures (4 only)

District

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