

MOTION

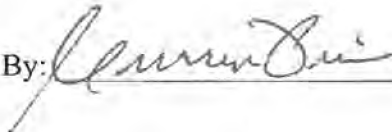
Leon Garr moved from Ruston, Louisiana to Los Angeles in 1944 and has been on the move ever since. During Mr. Garr's 80 plus years in Los Angeles, he has established Garr Enterprises, a construction company that built shopping centers, motels, apartment buildings, commercial buildings, senior citizen housing, child care centers, a community college in Orange County and several custom homes in View Park, employing hundreds of residents in South Los Angeles over the years.

In addition to founding Garr Enterprises and concerned about the community losing its only black-owned bank, Mr. Garr set out do something. Using most of his life savings, he acquired Founders National Bank (now OneUnited Bank), which became the first commercially bank owned by African Americans west of the Mississippi. At the robust age of 96, he added the Garr Body Shop to his list of entrepreneurial quests.

Today, Mr. Garr is 102 years "young" and continues to actively participate in the day-to-day operations of Garr Enterprises. He is always eager to share his wisdom with those who are willing to work, save, share and prosper. In recognition of Mr. Garr's service to the community and the indelible mark he has made on Los Angeles, it is appropriate that the City honor his legacy by naming the intersection of Gage Avenue and Vermont Avenue "Leon T. Garr Square."

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council designate the intersection of Gage Avenue and Vermont Avenue as "Leon T. Garr Square" and that the Department of Transportation be directed to erect permanent ceremonial sign(s) to this effect at this location.

Presented By: 
MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
Councilmember, 8th District

Seconded By:  Seconded By: 



MAR 22 2017

ORIGINAL