

MOTION

Kobe Bryant was born on August 23, 1978 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1996, he was drafted straight from high school into the NBA and joined the Los Angeles Lakers. Over his 20 year career with the Lakers, Kobe would win five championships, one regular season MVP, two Olympic gold medals, two NBA Finals MVPs, break numerous NBA scoring records, and play in 18 NBA all-star games. In his final NBA game, he scored 60 points and left behind a storied legacy that millions of Angelenos will never forget.

After leaving the NBA, Bryant went on to become an Oscar-winning artist, a mentor to younger athletes, and a vocal advocate for women’s basketball. His animated short film, “Dear Basketball,” won not only an Academy Award, but an Annie Award and a Sports Emmy. He gave generously to the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History. He worked with multiple authors on books for children and young adults. He wrote stories and poems. He invested his time in younger athletes, professional and aspiring, and devoted himself to sharing his love for basketball with his daughter, Gianna Maria Bryant, by coaching and giving her pointers.

Bryant was also a philanthropist, committed to giving back to this City. He founded the Kobe and Vanessa Bryant Family Foundation with his wife, Vanessa Bryant, which served in-need families and youth and supported and advocated for homeless services here in the City. He served as an ambassador for After-School All-Stars, a non-profit that provides and supports after-school programs, raising funds for the Los Angeles chapter. Through his Mamba Sports Foundation, he provided sports opportunities to children and young adults in underserved communities throughout Southern California.

On Sunday, January 26, 2020, Kobe Bryant was tragically killed in a helicopter crash with his daughter, Gianna, and seven others. The City of Los Angeles and the world lost a sports legend who was only beginning his second act, an act devoted to lifting up and inspiring others.

In light of Kobe Bryant’s remarkable and unprecedented career with the Los Angeles Lakers and all that he contributed to this City, it is appropriate that the portion of Figueroa Street that runs from Staples Center to Exposition Park be legally renamed as “Kobe Bryant Boulevard.”

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Engineer be directed to initiate the process of changing the name of Figueroa Street from Olympic Boulevard to Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to “Kobe Bryant Boulevard.”

PRESENTED BY:   
CURREN D. PRICE, JR.  
Councilmember, 9<sup>th</sup> District

  
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Councilmember, 10<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:   
majs

ORIGINAL