

**From:** [HPDG KC](#)  
**To:** [Public Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Troost Renaming Statement  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:51:57 AM

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From: **HPDG KC** <[hpdgkc@gmail.com](mailto:hpdgkc@gmail.com)>  
Date: Tue, May 6, 2025 at 9:37 AM  
Subject: Troost Renaming Statement  
To: [justin.smith@kcmo.org](mailto:justin.smith@kcmo.org) <[justin.smith@kcmo.org](mailto:justin.smith@kcmo.org)>

I am a long time resident and property owner on Troost for 46 years. I have spent

countless time and energy to improve the street without help from big banks or grants.

In that time I have learned much about Kansas City. Every day I am more and more

frustrated with how our city council does not have all the residents in their best interest but

instead a chosen few get special treatment. Concerning the renaming of Troost.

It appears the proper procedure has not been followed to change a street name in Jackson county:

**To officially change the name of a street in Jackson County, Missouri, a**

**petition**

**must be filed with the Jackson County Planning and Development Division, along**

**with supporting documentation and a filing fee. The petition needs to be signed by**

**all affected property owners and includes reasons for the name change. At least**

**66% of affected property owners must sign the petition for the process to be**

**initiated.**

I have seen one facebook post with an Unofficial survey that I took approximately about

two years ago. It was designed/worded in such a way that it skewed towards Mr.

Goode's Narrative .

Mr. Goode stated 52% of the 1247 people from the survey were in favor of the change.

How many of these 52% were actual property owners on Troost? According to Jackson

County, you have to be a property owner to sign the petition, and there must be 66% of

property owners in agreement to change the name.

I have been in contact with numerous Troost property owners, and none of them have

agreed to the name change and provided their signature for the name change. Some of

them did not even know about the effort to change the name.

So the name change according to Jackson County can go two ways by a petition that

66% of the property owners agree on , That is unless the City Council

decides they wish to change it?

There is the South Troost Post Office, There is Troost Highlands Sub-division, There

is Troost 39 Thrift Store, Troostwood and NUMEROUS other entities with the Troost

name.

This change will cost the property owners and tax payers money, it will cost

money in

these times with the uncertainty of the economy. City hall is cutting free bus service to

those that really need it and cutting IRIS, then reinstating it due to public outcry.

All the While providing free street car service to those on main street that really can

afford to pay a dollar for the service, none of this just does not make sense.

I do not believe changing of the Name Troost to Truth is financially viable for one thing.

So Let me get this correct, the reason for the name change is that Troost owned a

handful of slaves that were treated like family members, and he was complicit about

murderers and rape by other slave owners. Mind you slavery was not illegal at the time,

In fact Mr. Troost's grandson ( Nathan ) fought in the Union army against slavery.

Also The Troost family lived over 150 years ago, is not a justification in my opinion to

change the name of the Street.

There are many more problems concerning Troost, that are more important than a name

change that should be addressed before we waste more money on this.

Proper procedure was not followed by Councilwoman Robinson, and there should be an

Ethics investigation opened into this entire matter. Not only by the city but also Jackson

County.

Also why has the city allowed one person to choose a new name without any of the

property other owners input? There should be no special privileges for the chosen few.

Mr. Goode has been the Judge, and Jury of this Matter all the while

promoting his business with tons of free advertising under the reason of Truth.

Which sounds more like Selected Truth, or Convenient Truth to Me.

Thank you for allowing me to speak.

Joseph Balano

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