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The Cost to Rename Cantrell

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By: Garrett Wymer

(http://www.whsv.com/station/bios/news/209338901.html) - Email

(mailto:garrett.wymer@whsv.com)

Updated: Mon 12:24 AM, Aug 19, 2013



THE COST TO RENAME CANTRELL HARRISONBURG

The Cost to Rename Cantrell Ave.

HARRISONBURG -- Cantrell Avenue in Harrisonburg becoming Martin Luther King Jr. Way has caused controversy from the start. Now the project has a price tag - and the controversy is far from over. How much will it cost taxpayers?

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Harrisonburg city council approved the change earlier this week. As of January 1, Cantrell Avenue will be Martin Luther King Jr. Way. But the project does come with a price tag.

According to Councilman Abe Shearer, an estimate from the city manager's office projects the price of the signs to cost about \$2,000. Overall the city expects the change to cost around \$26,000. That figure includes "every cost associated with it," Shearer said, including labor, hourly wages and gas.

Shearer said that money likely will come from the city's general fund or public works fund.

Some who have opposed the name change said this was their concern from the beginning.

"There were those of us who never ever opposed to honor Dr. King, we just felt that economically that there were more sensible, more reasonable, equally impressive options," said Rhonda Lentz.

Shearer also said the city hoped to get federal grant money to help offset the costs. However, he said, the project probably will not meet the criteria to get that grant money.

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For those of us opposing renaming Cantrell, it's always been about the cost, inconvenience and hassle to people who live, work and conduct business on Cantrell. Now that it's been pushed through city council, the truth about the cost comes out. I was at the meeting. I believe it was said costs would be minimal to make this change. Where I come from, \$30,000 is not minimal. A change that is going to be so costly and affect all of Harrisonburg and beyond, should have been put on the ballot for a vote from city residents. It's sad to know that 5 people who make up city council get to decide something that is so costly and affects so many people. It's all in the name of being politically correct. Why does honoring Dr. King have to come at the cost of inconveniencing so many others? Oh, and that \$30,000 they are talking about, is just the cost to the city....it doesn't begin to cover the costs to the businesses and residents on Cantrell. I think if this was so important to all the supporters, then they should open their wallets and start paying for it. After all, it's a lot easier to spend someone else's money than it is to part with your own.

3 weeks ago 15 Likes

Like Reply



(http://www.facebook.com/rightfullytrue/)

While we are in the process of renaming streets, I'd like to propose that US RT 33 from the city line in the east to the entrance at Valley Mall be re-named Alexander Graham Bell Avenue, so that we the residents can shell out 2 to 3 times as much for another dead person who contributed a huge amount to this fair city, besides the phone he gave us hip hop, rap, blues, and Mary had a little lamb recorded....

3 weeks ago 8 Likes

Like Reply



(http://www.facebook.com/vonwasapunk/)

Mik....., A D U L T E R E R

Jesse Jackson....., A D U L T E R E R

Al Sharpton....., R A C E B A I T E R

Jesse Jackson, Jr. a n d wife....., F R A U D ----- going to prison.....

Yeahhhhhh....., we really need this 'name' here.....

3 weeks ago 6 Likes

Like Reply



(http://www.facebook.com/billybuzzard/)

I guess keeping the name Cantrell would be politically incorrect!

3 weeks ago 5 Likes

Like Reply



(http://www.facebook.com/mamaruth/)

Just let the one who wanted mlk name on something pay for it. If they want it then they should have to pay for it, not the ones who lives or runs a business on it.

3 weeks ago 4 Likes

Like Reply



(https://www.facebook.com/100006208986036/profile.php?id=100006208986036)

The General fund for this year was \$115,083,113. The total funds for this year were \$282,678,454. 1.3 million dollars were budgeted for information technology, much no doubt on licenses for things that could have been done as well or better with free software. To give the innumerate smaller numbers to chew on, \$531,844 was budgeted for street lights. \$276,192 was budgeted for street beautification. Yes, this historic decision will cost only 1/10=10 percent of what we spent this year simply to beautify our streets.

One tenth the price of street beautification, to show bigots don't rule this city and to let the world know to look here for more than just the history of Confederates who fought, killed, and died to preserve slavery and the feudal society built upon it, and the history of segregationists who massively resisted its demise for another century after the Civil War.

And- did the city manager say in his figures that those city employees, accounting for up to nine tenths (90 percent) of the cost, would be furloughed if we did not do the Martin Luther King renaming, thus saving the city 20 some thousand dollars? NO. They would have been doing something else. So, some signs

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WHSV Community Calendar

Today Sunday, September 15

Sunday, September 15

- Shenandoah Valley Art Center Exhibits
- The Greatest Show Unearthed
- Western Regional Big Game Trophy Show
- R e v i v a l with Don Donaldson
- Upward Basketball Signups
- Faith Lutheran Church of the Valley
- Tour & Taste bike ride and wine tasting fundr

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time



ABC News: Top Stories

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- Former Ariz. Officer Accused of Murder Tak Stand
(http://feeds.abcnews.com/c/35229/f/654824)
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that need replacing might go another year or two and yellow a bit because the Cantrell signs were moved ahead in line.

Are the people who shout about this, and who report it out of context, racist, innumerate, both, or something else?

3 weeks ago 3 Likes

Like Reply



(http://disqus.com/hillbillybuzzard/)

I was just wondering ... who is CANTRELL anyway?

3 weeks ago 3 Likes

Like Reply



(http://disqus.com/stephyalex/)

I think they could think of a better way to spend tax payers money

3 weeks ago 2 Likes

Like Reply



(http://disqus.com/coolmtnman/)

when the south was trying to preserve slavery in the Civil Was, nobody asked what the costs were. There are 450 billionaires in this country, they have soaked up all of our money, The Walton family who owns Walmart are all billionaires but none of the slave/workers get health care and Walmart employess collect more welfare than any other employer. Slavery is alive and well in this country. A few dollars to remind us of history and how evil some people can be might be a good thing

3 weeks ago 2 Likes

Like Reply



(http://disqus.com/Dirk_Diggler/)

Which orifice did you pull the 450 number out of? You seem jealous of them.

3 weeks ago in reply to coolmtnman

Like Reply

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