



# CITY OF FORT PIERCE

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

REBECCA GROHALL, AICP, PLANNING MANAGER  
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING ◊ DEVELOPMENT REVIEW  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ◊ URBAN DESIGN ◊ URBAN FORESTRY ◊ ZONING

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TO: Robert J. Bradshaw, City Manager

THROUGH: Rebecca Grohall, AICP, Planning Manager

FROM: Kori Benton, Historic Preservation Officer

RE: Resolution 15-R04  
Renaming of the Avenue D Historic District as the Lincoln Park Historic District

DATE: January 22, 2015

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### Staff Analysis:

Lincoln Park originated as a one and a half acre recreational park located at the center of a residential subdivision. As development around Lincoln Park progressed, an amendment to the development plan (plat) divided the park into private lots for construction and extended Salene Street (Avenue D) through the center of the park, providing for direct access from the High Point Street (US 1) to the western edge of town. This shift, transformed Lincoln Park into a mixed use hub where many of the original stores and homes in the area began to develop a busy corridor.

In 1923, the City of Fort Pierce Commission passed an ordinance to comprehensively overhaul street name assignments in order to more appropriately identify the developing grid-based street system in the City. This initiative rendered the nomenclature utilized today for numeral and alphabetical streets such as 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, etc. and Avenue A, B, C, etc. It was with this adoption that Salene Street became Avenue D.

In the same year, Lincoln Park Academy was opened as a middle school, beginning the progress and growth of this nationally renowned school, just to the north of the Lincoln Park Subdivision. The development commencing around the Avenue D corridor began to cultivate, led by local businesses and residents as well as outside investors locating here to participate in the economic growth in Fort Pierce, due in large part to our beautiful waterfront and growing commerce.

The corridor along Avenue D has rendered rich culture, unique mixed use development, and economic activity indispensable to the history of Fort Pierce. The 1950s and 1960s proved reality for the potential that the corridor has to offer, and recent strides during the past decades reveals the ability to achieve that potential once again.

The City of Fort Pierce has maintained its commitment to revitalization of this esteemed neighborhood and has garnered active partners from local home and business owners to the Lincoln Park Main Street Organization. In 2002, the City of Fort Pierce adopted the Avenue D Historic District by resolution, seeking to embrace the rich heritage and architectural integrity found along the corridor. In 2008, the Lincoln Park Main Street was recognized as a National Main Street Program, further demonstrating the momentum set in motion.

The initial resolution adopted by the City Commission established this contributing district as the Avenue D historic district, though the community and the neighborhood's true origin embrace its legacy as the Lincoln Park Main Street, at the heart of the Lincoln Park Community near the center of Fort Pierce. This area proves to offer economic, commercial, and social activity for the future, and has since the settlement of Fort Pierce.

Resolution 15-R04 presented to the Commission would rename this Historic District as the "Lincoln Park Historic District" upon adoption.

**Historic Preservation Board Recommendation:**

The Fort Pierce Historic Preservation Board, at their November 25, 2013, approved sending a letter of support for the City Commission to rename the "Avenue D Historic District" as the "Lincoln Park Historic District" based upon its historic accuracy and appropriateness.

**Staff Recommendation:**

The presented proposal is consistent with Chapter 23 – Preservation of Historic and Archaeological Sites, Structures, and Districts of the City of Fort Pierce Code, and seeks to improve the historic accuracy and appropriateness of the nomenclature of this valuable historic district, therefore Staff recommends the City Commission approve the presented Resolution.