

THESHOPSATSHARPEND.COM

November 20, 2023

Mr. Timothy Teddy City of Columbia Community Development Director P.O. Box 6015 Columbia, MO 65205

RE: Sharp End Street Signs

Sharp End Historic Business District

Columbia, Missouri

Dear Mr. Teddy:

Please accept this letter as a formal request on behalf of the organizations noted below to add a recognition of the "Sharp End" to the city street signs in the Sharp End Historic Business District.

We would like the signs to include text at the bottom that says "Historic Sharp End." An example, based on other historic street name signs in Columbia, is attached.

Please let us know if you need anything else regarding this request.

Sincerely,

Barbra Horrell

Sharp End Heritage Committee

Nickie Davis

Downtown Community Improvement District

Benjamin A. Ross

Regional Economic Development, Inc

Darin Preis

Central Missouri Community Action

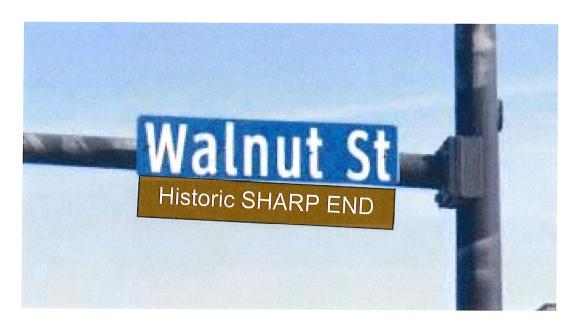
Enclosure:

Emails from July 24, 2023

Example sign text







Example Street Sign

Benjamin Ross

From:

Benjamin Ross

Sent:

Monday, July 24, 2023 3:13 PM

To:

Timothy Teddy; Shane Creech

Cc:

De'Carlon Seewood; Stacey Button; Todd Hoien

Subject:

RE: REDI - Sharp End business district street sign idea

Attachments:

Sharp End Business Dist - GE reduced.pdf; Sharp End Tribune Insert.pdf

Hi Tim,

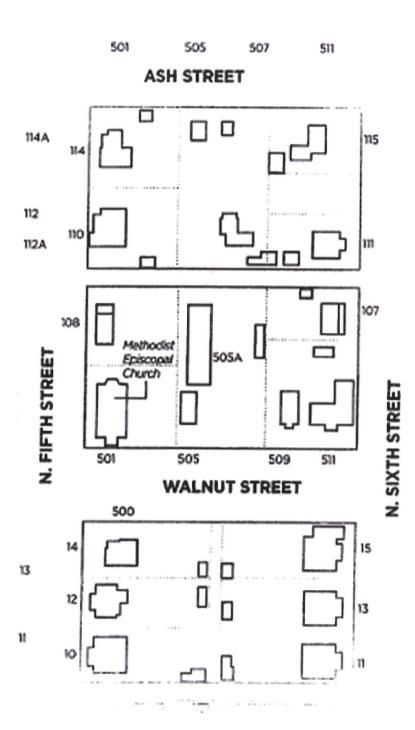
Based on the attached information, I was including all the street signs at:

5th & Walnut

6th & Walnut

5th & Ash

6th & Ash



Thanks, Ben



Benjamin A. Ross, P.E., PTOE Vice President - Engineering

573.449.2646 ext. 226

www.ess-inc.com

bross@ess-inc.com





Licensed Professional Engineer in MO, KS, TX, IL

From: Timothy Teddy <Timothy.Teddy@como.gov>

Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 3:08 PM

To: Shane Creech < Shane. Creech@como.gov>

<Stacey.Button@como.gov>; Todd Hoien <thoien@hawthornbank.com>

Subject: Re: REDI - Sharp End business district street sign idea

Ben,

Let us know which streets, and the locations for the historic Sharp End street signs. Are you including North Fifth, North Sixth, and the 500 block of East Ash in addition to Walnut?

Timothy Teddy, Community Development Director City of Columbia 701 East Broadway Columbia, MO 65205

(573) 874-7318

On Mon, Jul 24, 2023 at 2:42 PM Shane Creech <Shane.Creech@como.gov> wrote:

Ben,

I have included Tim Teddy in this conversation. Community Development has a process to add historical names which he can speak to better than myself. Seems like the City has done several of these the last few years.

Thanks,

Shane S. Creech, P.E. Public Works Director City of Columbia, Missouri Shane.Creech@CoMo.gov

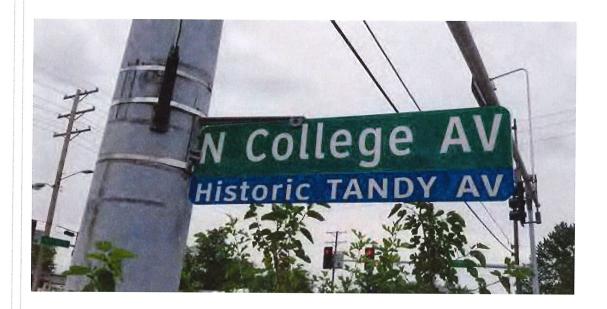
On Mon, Jul 24, 2023 at 2:25 PM Benjamin Ross bross@ess-inc.com wrote:

Hi Shane:

In my capacity as REDI Board Chair, I have regular meetings with De'Carlon about various REDI related issues. We met earlier today and one of the items we talked about was possibly adding information about the historic Sharp End business district to the street signs in the area.

We do not have a recommendation on the exact wording or sign colors but would like to learn more about the process to modify the street signs. De'Carlon asked that I send you this information and ask for your feedback on the process to change the street signs, cost, etc.

I had something like this in mind:





Thanks,

Ben



DELIVERING YOUR VISION ~

Benjamin A. Ross, P.E., PTOE Vice President - Engineering

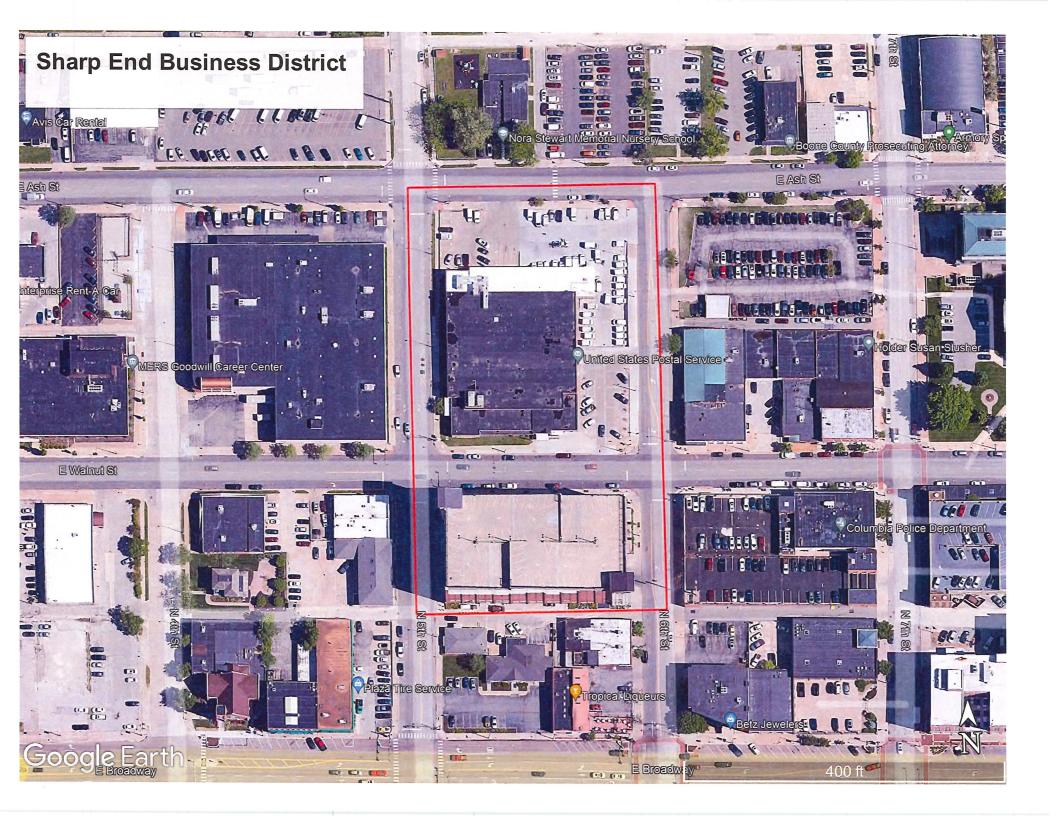
- 💺 <u>573.449.2646 ext. 226</u>
- www.ess-inc.com
- <u>bross@ess-inc.com</u>

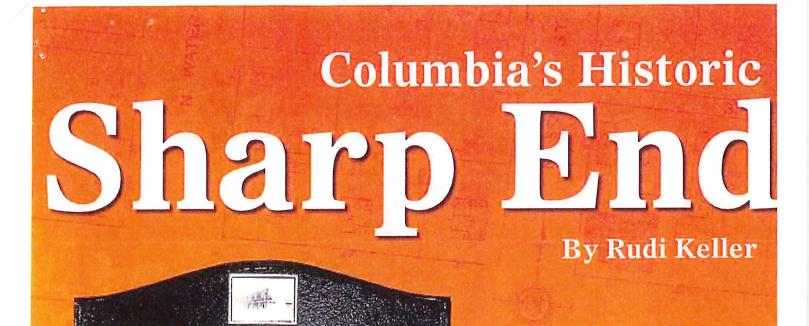






Licensed Professional Engineer in MO, KS, TX, IL





From the early 1900s to the 1960s, the Sharp End business district was a city within a city for Columbia's black community. Stretching from Fifth to Sixth streets on both sides of Walnut Street. Sharp End was a robust business center with black-owned restaurants, meeting halls, barber shops, bars and more. In its prime, it was broadly known as the cultural heart of the black community, which included churches, schools, homes and social clubs. Sharp End was all business; children were not allowed there without parental supervision until they turned 18. Entering Sharp End without an adult was considered a rite of passage. Sharp End was a destination for visitors and the place for black adults to work, dine and socialize. It was demolished during urban renewal, which suddenly and dramatically removed the nucleus

MAY 19. 2015

of this self-contained black business community.

With support from



Control Marians

TRIBUNE

May 20, 2015