

What are the racial impacts?

Names hold significant impacts in history, and developing a policy that reflects these truths is important. In response to the national movement to end racial injustice, efforts are being made to remove the names on building and monuments that memorialize white supremacists and those who advocated for racist policies, practices, and procedures. Ongoing efforts to rename these buildings, rooms, and monuments have resulted in challenges and some changes. This policy will establish a formal process to ensure that the 203 project, and any future building or rooms will be named for persons or groups who promote and champion the values held by the Town Council and the community including diversity, equity, and inclusivity.

Who is or will experience burden?

The burden would be experienced by persons or groups who do not approve of the proposed name.

Who is or will experience benefit?

Community members who approve of the name change will benefit from this policy. It will also benefit persons or groups whose historical contributions were historically underrecognized in North Carolina. The Town will benefit by reflecting its values through naming selections.

What are the root causes of inequity?

Historically, the naming of buildings has been grounded in institutional racism that has sought to elevate one version of history. This practice has resulted in buildings and monuments being named to reenforce a biased viewpoint and perpetuate racism and white supremacy.

What might be the unintended consequences of this action or strategy?

A naming policy could alienate people who do not approve of the name of the building or wish to see the building named for someone else.