PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION

Vernbro Medical Center is a multi-specialty facility in South Los Angeles that offers family medicine, podiatry, surgery, dentistry, and recuperative care and houses a pharmacy, imaging center, and urgent care, providing critical medical care to South L.A. residents.

Vernbro Medical Center was built in 1953 by a group of Black physicians at a time when most major hospitals refused to hire Black doctors on their staffs, preventing Black physicians from working in the field of medicine and worsening access to quality medical care for Black patients. At its founding Vernbro Medical Center was the first Black-owned specialty group practice west of the Mississippi and would later expand into the first Black Medical Group as well.

The historical significance of Vernbro Medical Center was reflected in its inclusion in the 2018 film, The Green Book, which was a real stop along the journey of world-class, African-American pianist, Dr. Don Shirley, as portrayed in the movie.

In 1991, Dr. Cardin E. Gill purchased the Vernbro Medical Center and today it serves patients from all backgrounds and demographics, with an emphasis on providing care to veterans and unhoused patients.

In recognition of the healthcare that Vernbro Medical Center has provided to City residents for decades and to ensure that this piece of Los Angeles, medical, and Black history be preserved, it is appropriate that the City name the intersection of Vernon Avenue and Broadway as "Vernbro Medical Center Square."

I THEREFORE MOVE that the intersection at Vernon Avenue and Broadway be named as "**Vernbro Medical Center Square**" and that the Department of Transportation be directed to erect permanent ceremonial sign(s) to this effect at this location.

PRESENTED BY: _____
CURREN D. PRICE, JR.
Councilmember, 9th District

SECONDED BY: _____

ORIGINAL

MAR 2 5 2022

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