TO

The Honorable President and
    Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400
100 North Holliday Street

DATE: August 23, 2019

The Department of Planning is in receipt of City Council Bill #19-0412, which is for the purpose of changing the name of Engine 52 Fire Station located at 3525 Woodbrook Avenue to Hilton L. Roberts, Sr. Fire Station.

In its consideration of this Bill, the Planning Commission reviewed the attached staff report, which recommended approval of City Council Bill #19-0412 and adopted the following resolution; six members being present (six in favor):

> RESOLVED, That the Planning Commission concurs with the recommendation of its departmental staff, and recommends that City Council Bill #19-0412 be passed by the City Council.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Eric Tiso, Division Chief, Land Use and Urban Design Division at 410-396-8358.

CR/ewt

cc: Mr. Nicholas Blendy, Mayor's Office
      The Honorable Edward Reisinger, Council Rep. to Planning Commission
      The Honorable Leon Pinkett III
      Mr. Colin Tarbert, BDC
      Mr. Derek Baumgardner, BMZA
      Mr. Geoffrey Veale, Zoning Administration
      Mr. Bob Pipik, DHCD
      Ms. Elena DiPietro, Law Dept.
      Mr. Francis Burnszynski, PABC
      Mr. Liam Davis, DOT
      Ms. Natawna Austin, Council Services
      Mr. Dominic McAlily

Bernard C. "Jack" Young
Mayor

Chris Ryer
Director

August 22, 2019

REQUEST: City Council Bill#19-0421/ Naming Engine 52 Fire station to Hilton L. Roberts Sr. Fire Station

For the purpose of changing the name of Engine 52 Fire Station, located at 3525 Woodbrook Avenue, to Hilton L. Roberts, Sr. Fire Station.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

STAFF: Ivor Quashie

PETITIONER: Councilman Leon F. Pinkett, III, President Brandon M. Scott

OWNER: Mayor and City Council

SITE/GENERAL AREA

Site Conditions: 3525 Woodbrook is located on the northeast corner of the intersection with Liberty Heights Avenue. This R-7 zoned property measures approximately 110' by 69' and is improved by a 2 story brick fire station.

General Area: The area is predominantly residential with some commercial and institutional buildings. The property is located within the Parkview/Woodbrook neighborhood.

HISTORY

There are no previous Planning actions for this property.

ANALYSIS

Background: Hilton L. Roberts, Sr., a career Baltimore City firefighter, was one of the first African American firefighters in Baltimore City. In 1943, he joined the United States Naval Service, and he was awarded the World War II Pacific Theater Ribbon, the American Theater Ribbon, and the Victory Medal. Ten years later he returned to Baltimore and, along with seven others, graduated in the first class of African Americans from the Baltimore City Fire Department Academy. He and his fellow graduates were pioneers in this field of public service at a time when they encountered danger, hostility, and racial turmoil. In 1959, he received a commendation for heroism from the Fire Department. His tireless work ethic, community spirit, and dedication to the Fire Department influenced members of the community and his family to seek employment in public service. Today one of his great-granddaughters serves as a firefighter in the Baltimore City Fire Department. It would be fitting to honor his service to Baltimore by naming Engine 52 Fire Station the Hilton L. Roberts, Sr. Fire Station.

<u>Notification</u>: The Liberty Square Neighborhood Association, Mondawmin Neighborhood Improvement Association, Greater Mondawmin Coordinating Council, New Auchentoroly Terrace Association President Brandon M. Scott and Councilmember Leon F. Pinkett, III were notified of this item.

Chris Ryer
Director