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**BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL
WAYS AND MEANS
COMMITTEE**

Mission Statement

The Committee on Ways and Means (WM) is responsible for ensuring taxpayer dollars are expended prudently and equitably. WM will exercise regular oversight of the City's budget, expenditures, loans, and other financial matters. The committee's areas of jurisdiction include: budget & appropriations, taxation, financial services, consumer protection, audits, and the Comptroller's Office.

**The Honorable Eric T. Costello
Chairman**

PUBLIC HEARING

**TUESDAY, September 10, 2024
10:10 AM**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Council Bill #24-0570

**City Property - Naming the Playground Located at Lake Montebello to be
the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground**

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BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Ways and Means

Bill: 24-0570

City Property – Naming the Playground Located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground

Sponsor: Councilmember Ramos

Introduced: July 22, 2024

FOR the purpose of naming the playground located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground.

Effective: 30th Day after Enactment

Agency Reports

Law	Favorable
Baltimore Development Corporation	No Objection
Department of Finance	Does Not Oppose
Department of Planning	Favorable
Department of Real Estate	Favorable
Department of Transportation	No Objection
Department of Recreation and Parks	Favorable

Analysis

Current Law

Article 5 – Finance, Property, and Procurement; Section 20-2; Baltimore City Code; (Edition 2000) outlines the process for naming city property.

§ 20-2. Ordinance required for naming.

(a) In general.

City property shall be named or renamed by an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council.

(b) Referral of bill.

- (1) When legislation is introduced into the City Council to name or rename City property, the legislation shall be referred to:
 - (i) the Planning Commission;
 - (ii) the municipal agency that has or will have control over the City property;
 - (iii) the Department of Real Estate; and
 - (iv) any other agency that may have an interest in naming the City property.
- (2) Within 30 days after referral, the Planning Commission and the municipal agency in control of the City property shall submit reports.
- (3) If the reports are not received within the 30-day time period, the City Council may act on the legislation.

Background

For 32 years, Mary Pat Clarke served as a member of the Baltimore City Council, including 8 years as the councilperson for District 2 and the councilperson for District 14 for 16 years. Clarke had history in 1987 when she was elected as Baltimore’s first female council president, which she served for 8 years. Throughout her career, she produced important legislation, including the country’s first living wage law in 1994.

Undaunted by the ebb and flow of politics, Clarke remained a constant presence and figure in her community and the City of Baltimore, before, throughout, and after her political career. Mary Pat Clarke is held in high esteem in the City of Baltimore and throughout the city government. If approved, Council Bill 24-0570 would name the playground located at Lake Montebello to the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground in honor of the local politician’s trailblazing legacy.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note:

Information Source(s): 24-0570, Baltimore City Code, The Baltimore Sun, and all agency reports received as of this writing.

Analysis by: Niya N. Garrett
Analysis Date: 09/05/2024

Direct Inquiries to (410) 396-1268

Council Bill 24-0570

Agency Reports

SEE ATTACHED

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
EBONY M. THOMPSON, CITY SOLICITOR
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET
SUITE 101, CITY HALL
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

September 3, 2024

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn: Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 24-0570 City Property – Naming the Playground Located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed Mayor and City Council Bill 24-0570 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would name the playground located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground.

The Baltimore City Code allows for the naming of property by ordinance. City Code, Art. 5, § 20-2. There are no requirements for the name of real or personal property as there are for names of streets. Baltimore City Code, Art. 26, §7-1, et. seq. The bill that proposes the ordinance must be referred to the Planning Commission, the municipal agency that will have control over the City property, the Department of Real Estate, and any other agency that has an interest in the property.

The First Reader version of this bill states that it was referred to the City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Planning Commission, Department of Recreation and Parks, Baltimore Development Corporation, Department of Transportation, and Department of Real Estate. Assuming that the land is in control of one of these agencies, then it has been properly referred. As there are no legal impediments to this bill, the Law Department can approve it for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,


Desiree Luckey
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson, City Solicitor
Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations

Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor
Michelle Toth, Assistant Solicitor



MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 15, 2024
TO: Ways & Means Committee
FROM: Colin Tarbert, President and CEO 
POSITION: No Objection
SUBJECT: Council Bill 24-0570

INTRODUCTION

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) is reporting on City Council Bill 24-0570 introduced by Councilmember Ramos.

PURPOSE

This bill proposes that the playground located at Lake Montebello be named the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground.

BRIEF HISTORY

Renovations to the park were recently completed as part of Mayor Brandon Scott's administration's ongoing investments into recreation spaces all across Baltimore City. Councilperson Clarke served 32 years on the Baltimore City Council, including eight as the City of Baltimore's first female Council President, from 1987-1995. Additionally, she was the Councilperson for District 2, from 1975-1983, and then District 14, from 2004-2020.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

AGENCY POSITION

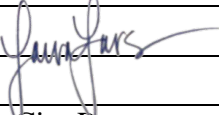
The Baltimore Development Corporation respectfully submits a report of **no objection** on City Council Bill 24-0570. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Clark at 410-837-9305 or KClark@baltimoredevelopment.com.

cc: Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
Ty'lor Schnella, Mayor's Office of Government Relations

MJF



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Laura Larsen, Budget Director 
DATE	7/23/2024
SUBJECT	24-0570 City Council Bill 24-0570, City Property – Naming the Playground Located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground

Position: Does Not Oppose

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 24-0570, City Property – Naming the Playground Located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground, for the purpose of naming the playground located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground.

Background

Mary Pat Clarke, “Mary Pat” to many, has served Baltimore City since she was elected to the City Council in 1975 and the first woman to be elected to be City Council President in 1987. Over the decades she has represented central and east Baltimore. Throughout her tenure in City Hall her priorities were the youth of the City, the neighborhoods in her district and making city services work for all.

Fiscal Impact

The Department of Finance anticipates that this legislation will have a minimal fiscal impact for the City.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance does not oppose City Council Bill 24-0570.

cc: Michael Mocksten
Nina Themelis



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Chris Ryer, Director, Department of Planning <i>Chris Ryer</i>
DATE	August 23, 2024
SUBJECT	City Council Bill #24-0570

Position: Approval

SUMMARY OF POSITION

This bill will recognize the long service of Councilmember and former Council President, Mary Pat Clarke. Our Department and our Planning Commission had worked closely with Councilmember Clarke over her lengthy and distinguished career, and we offer our congratulations and best wishes along with our favorable recommendation for this well-deserved naming honor.

CONCLUSION

The Department of Planning respectfully requests a favorable report for this bill.

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



MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the City Council
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Christine Griffin, Deputy Director of Policy and Government Relations

Date: August 22, 2024

Re: 24-0570 City Property - Naming the Playground Located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground

Position: Favorable

The Department of Real Estate is responding to the request for a report on City Council bill 24-0570 City Property - Naming the Playground Located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground. The bill would take effect 30 days after it is enacted.

The playground in Northeast Baltimore is located on City property under the control of the Department of Recreation and Parks.

Councilperson Clarke served 32 years on the Baltimore City Council, including eight as the City of Baltimore's first female council president, from 1987-1995. Additionally, she was the councilperson for District 2, from 1975-1983, and then District 14, from 2004-2020. Throughout her tenure, she served on several council committees and was a strong advocate for integrating electoral slates, which led to the election of several African Americans to City Council in the 1970s.

Naming the playground the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground is an honor well-earned and is a fitting way to recognize her legacy and commemorate her many contributions to the City of Baltimore and the State of Maryland.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Real Estate supports the passage of City Council bill 24-0570.



BRANDON M. SCOTT
MAYOR
*100 Holliday Street, Room 250
Baltimore, Maryland 21202*

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Corren Johnson, Director – Department of Transportation
DATE	August 19, 2024
SUBJECT	24-0570 City Property - Naming the Playground Located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground

Position: No Objection

Introduction


For the purpose of naming the playground located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground.

DOT Analysis

Council Bill 24-0570 proposes to rename the playground at Lake Montebello in honor of Mary Pat Clarke, Baltimore’s first female Council President. During her tenure, Clarke pushed for progressive measures such as a \$15 minimum wage. More recently, Clarke served as Councilwoman for the 14th District, where she was a strong advocate for the needs of her constituents.

Conclusion

The Department projects no fiscal or operational impact and has no objection to the advancement of Council Bill 24-0570.

F R O M	Name & Title	Reginald Moore Executive Director <i>Reginald Moore</i>	CITY OF BALTIMORE MEMO	
	Agency Name & Address	Baltimore City Department of Recreation & Parks 3001 East Drive, Baltimore, Maryland (MD) 21217		
	Subject :	City Council Bill 24-0570 Naming the Playground Located at Lake Montebello		

DATE: August 5, 2024

TO: The Honorable City Council President Nick Mosby
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400
100 North Holliday Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

INTRODUCTION

I am herein reporting on City Council bill 24-0570 introduced by Councilwoman Odette Ramos.

PURPOSE

For the purpose of naming the playground located at Lake Montebello to be named City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground.

BRIEF HISTORY

The playground located on DPW property at Lake Montebello was constructed by Baltimore City Recreation & Parks (BCRP) at the request of former Mayor Martin O'Malley. The playground suffered from vandalism and was rendered unusable following damages received during the Freddie Gray uprising. With the receipt of federal ARPA funding, Councilwoman Odette Ramos requested that BCRP use some of those funds to replace this popular community asset.

This legislation requests the formerly unnamed playground be named after former Council President Mary Pat Clarke as "City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground." Mary Pat Clarke holds a long and distinguished career as one of our Baltimore's most dedicated public servants. Beyond that distinction, she was the first woman to be elected as City Council President in 1987.

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION

BCRP has agreed to fabricate the sign for the playground as "Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground." We request that the legislation be amended to reflect this name. Naming convention does not typically include a recipient's title, but in an effort to highlight the magnitude of her contributions to Baltimore, BCRP has complied with this request. Thought this is ultimately under the purview of DPW, because of our direct involvement with this legislation, we are happy to support the bill.

If you have any questions, please contact Jenny Morgan at jmorgan@baltimorecity.gov.

CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 24-0570
(First Reader)

Introduced by: Councilmember Ramos
Introduced and read first time: July 22, 2024
Assigned to: Ways and Means Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Planning Commission, Baltimore Development Corporation, Department of Transportation, Department of Recreation and Parks, Department of Real Estate

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **City Property – Naming the Playground Located at Lake Montebello to be the**
3 **City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground**

4 FOR the purpose of naming the playground located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council
5 President Mary Pat Clarke Playground.

6 BY authority of

7 Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement

8 Section 20-2

9 Baltimore City Code

10 (Edition 2000)

11 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the
12 playground located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke
13 Playground.

14 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day
15 after the date it is enacted.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.