



## MEMORANDUM

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

From: Andy Frank, Real Estate Officer

Date: May 19, 2022

Re: 22-0218 City Property – Renaming Robert E. Lee Park to Lake Roland Park

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### **Position: Support**

The Department of Real Estate is reporting on City Council bill 22-0218 City Property – Renaming Robert E. Lee Park to Lake Roland Park. The purpose of bill is to change the name of the park known as Robert E. Lee Park, located at 1000 Lakeside Drive, Baltimore, Maryland, 21210, to Lake Roland Park.

### **Background**

Robert E. Lee was a confederate general who fought to defend slavery.

Lake Roland Park is named for Roland Run, a stream in that flows in the former reservoir Lake Roland.

In 2015, CCB 15-0552 proposed to change the name of Robert E. Lee Park to Lake Roland Park, three days after a white supremacist attacked a Black church in South Carolina and killed nine people. The shooter previously posted photos of himself with a Confederate flag. CCB 15-0552 failed at the end of the term.

When the City Council hears CCB 22-0218, it will be just weeks after a violent extremist attack on a grocery store in a predominantly Black neighborhood left 10 people dead.

Symbols that sow hate and division have no place in Baltimore.

### **The Department of Real Estate supports the passage of CCB 22-0218.**

CC: Celeste Amato, Chief of Staff, Comptroller's Office  
KC Kelleher, Director of Communication, Comptroller's Office  
Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office  
Sophia Gebrehiwot, Mayor's Office