5	NAME & TITLE	David E. Scott, P.E., Director
0	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building
1	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 09-0292

CITY of
BALTIMORE

MEMO



TO

DATE: April 14, 2009

The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council c/o Karen Randle Room 400 - City Hall

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 09-0292 introduced by Council Members Conaway, Holton, Young, Cole, D'Adamo, Henry, Spector, Middleton, Welch, Reisinger, Clarke and Kraft.

The purpose of the Bill is to change the name of South Hilton Street, between West Caton Avenue and Frederick Road, to Unseld's Way.

Article 26 {Surveys, Streets, and Highways} § 7-3 of the Baltimore City Code requires that when any ordinance or resolution is introduced into City Council to name or change the name of a public street, avenue, or other thoroughfare, the legislation must be referred to the Department of Public Works and the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation for a written report on the advisability to do so. In considering a proposed street name change, the name must not be duplicative, cannot be the name of a living person or persons or the name of a business or business product, and must be applied to the entire length of the street, avenue, or thoroughfare.

Hilton Street is located in the western portion of Baltimore City and runs generally in a north/south direction, beginning at the northernmost end at North Gelston Drive and terminating at the southernmost end at South Caton Avenue. City Council Bill 09-0292, if approved, would rename a portion of Hilton Street, between West Caton Avenue and Frederick Road, to Unseld's Way. Therefore, the provisions of this legislation would not meet the Code requirement for renaming a street in its entirety. The sponsors of this legislation may wish to consider two options in honoring Mr. Unseld in this manner:

 Request a ceremonial street name change, an administrative process that would allow for the posting of the ceremonial sign for a period of one year (procedures and application attached by way of example); or

Amend the bill to include the entire length of Hilton Street for renaming to Unseld's Way.

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Based on these findings, the Department of Public Works must regrettably oppose City Council Bill 09-0292 as currently written.

David E. Scott, P.E.

Director

DES/MMC:pat

Attachment