

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 09-0333  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Holton, D’Adamo, Young, Reisinger, Welch, Henry, Cole,  
Spector, Middleton, Conaway, Branch, Clarke, President Rawlings-Blake  
Introduced and read first time: May 4, 2009

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A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL concerning

2 **Federal Hill – Baltimore City’s Great American Main Street**

3 FOR the purpose of proudly acknowledging the singular accomplishment of Federal Hill Main  
4 Street in becoming one of five recipients of the 2009 Great American Main Street Award  
5 from the National Trust Main Streets Center for effectiveness in creating a vibrant and  
6 historic commercial district through partnership with local residents, property owners, the  
7 business community, city and state agencies, schools, and nonprofit organizations; and  
8 providing for a special effective date.

9 **Recitals**

10 The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a non-profit membership organization with  
11 partner organizations in all 50 states, and it provides leadership, education, advocacy and  
12 resources to a national network of people, organizations and local communities committed to  
13 saving places, connecting to history, and collectively shaping the future of America’s stories.

14 Established in 1980, the National Trust Main Street Center helps communities of all sizes  
15 revitalize their traditional historic commercial districts. The Main Street Center leads the  
16 preservation-based community revitalization movement and has proven that historic preservation  
17 and community driven economic development effects lasting change.

18 Brought to Baltimore City in October 2000, funded by both private and public funds, Main  
19 Street was formed to revitalize the urban business district of Historic Federal Hill “in ways that  
20 meet the needs of the community and bring tourists into the area to support small businesses,  
21 while at the same time preserving the neighborhood’s unique and historic character.”

22 The Federal Hill Main Street program, managed by a Board of Directors and made up  
23 primarily of neighborhood business and residential leaders, implements projects through  
24 committees made up of community volunteers. Federal Main Street accomplishments include:

- 25 • Since the Main Street program began in 2000, over 70 new businesses have opened  
26 and stayed open in Federal Hill, and 14 new businesses have expanded.
- 27 • With the help of Main Street matching facade grant and architectural assistance  
28 programs, over 40 local businesses have improved their building facades, giving the  
29 neighborhood a quick facelift.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.  
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

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- 1 • Through a Baltimore Main Streets Initiative, Main Street lit the sidewalks of Federal  
2 Hill with the installation of 41 new Victorian style pedestrian streetlights.
- 3 • Main Street conducted a massive South Baltimore market study and developed  
4 comprehensive business and recruitment and marketing support tools.
- 5 • Main Street created a comprehensive strategy to keep Federal Hill clean and green,  
6 focusing on education, enforcement, maintenance, and beautification to address trash  
7 and litter problems.
- 8 • Main Street created a park on the corner of Light and Cross Streets, constructed a  
9 new Federal Hill gateway sign, and planted trees and placed large flower pots on  
10 sidewalks throughout the district.

11 Future plans call for working with the City to improve the intersection of Key Highway and  
12 Light Street, redeveloping the old derelict Public Comfort Station on Cross Street into a new  
13 Historic Federal Hill Visitors Center and Main Street Office, and continuing efforts to attract  
14 more businesses, keep Federal Hill clean and green, and enhancing *Belli Fiori* beautification  
15 efforts.

16 Named in March 2009 as one of five Great American Main Streets, Federal Hill Main Street  
17 was also one of two urban neighborhoods in the country to ever receive the award. An initiative  
18 of the Mayor's Office and a program of the Baltimore Development Corporation, Federal Hill  
19 was selected from over approximately 2,100 eligible neighborhoods across the country.

20 In awarding the 2009 Great American Main Street Award, the Director of the National Trust  
21 Main Street Center remarked: "By combining sound market research with the hard work of  
22 dedicated volunteers, Federal Hill Main Street has successfully brought retailers back to a  
23 district that had become known primarily as a nighttime entertainment district. Today, Federal  
24 Hill has a lot to offer residents as well as visitors who previously came to Baltimore only to visit  
25 the major attractions of the Inner Harbor."

26 Baltimore City looks up to Federal Hill as a shining example of what of our neighborhoods  
27 can become and is proud to present one of our own as a *Great American Main Street*.

28 **SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That  
29 this Body hereby proudly acknowledges the singular accomplishment of Federal Hill Main Street  
30 in becoming one of five recipients of the 2009 Great American Main Street Award from the  
31 National Trust Main Streets Center for effectiveness in creating a vibrant and historic  
32 commercial district through partnership with local residents, property owners, the business  
33 community, city and state agencies, schools, and nonprofit organizations.

34 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the  
35 Mayor, the Board of Directors and Members of Federal Hill Main Street, the Director of the  
36 Department of Planning, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

37 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this Resolution takes effect on the date it  
38 is enacted.