

CITY OF BALTIMORE

SHEILA DIXON, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor
101 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

January 14, 2010

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

Re: City Council Bill 10-0439– Renaming an unnamed alley Jazz Alley

Dear Madame President and City Council Members:

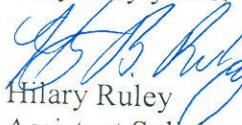
The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 09-0439 for form and legal sufficiency. This bill seeks to name an unnamed alley located parallel to and between West Baltimore Street and Hollins Street and perpendicular to South Carrollton Avenue and South Carlton Street. The alley would be named Jazz Alley.

The Planning Department has identified two alleys that fit the above geographical description, neither of which is named. The Law Department recommends that the bill be amended to be more specific as to which alley is sought to be named.

Assuming the alley to be named is accurately identified, the City has the power to name it under Section 7-3 of Article 26 of the Baltimore City Code (hereinafter Section 7-3). That Section requires the ordinance proposing the name be referred to, and reviewed by, the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation (CHAP). The section further provides that “no further action shall be taken by the City Council” on the bill “pending the receipt” of the reports from DPW and CHAP. This bill has been referred to the Planning Commission (Planning), the Department of General Services (DGS), the Department of Transportation (DOT), CHAP and the Law Department. Although this bill has not been referred to DPW, Sections 40(f) and 130(B) of City Ordinance 08-03, which created DGS, transferred DPW’s power to rename streets to DGS. Therefore, the requirement in Section 7-3 has been satisfied by referring this bill to DGS.

Assuming receipt of reports by CHAP and DGS and the accurate identification of the alley, the Law Department would approve this bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,


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Assistant Solicitor

JAN 4 2010

E-MAIL

Handwritten signature/initials

cc: The Honorable Councilmember Agnes Welch, 9th District
George Nilson, City Solicitor
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Special Assistant Solicitor