

Introduced by: Councilmember Pinkett

Costello, Henry Bullock, James, Schlar, Pen

Prepared by: Department of Legislative Reference

Date: February 19, 2019

Referred to:

TAXATION, FINANCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Committee

*Scott
Middleton
Stokes
Clarke
Reisinger*

Also referred for recommendation and report to municipal agencies listed on reverse.

CITY COUNCIL 19-0412

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District

FOR the purpose of designating the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within defined boundaries as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

Handwritten signatures in various colors (blue, black, red) including names like 'C.T. Am', 'Robert', 'M. Hinkle', 'Shirley', 'Yates', 'E. V. Am', 'James', 'Henry', 'Bullock', 'James', 'Schlar', 'Pen', 'Scott', 'Middleton', 'Stokes', 'Clarke', 'Reisinger'.

****The introduction of an Ordinance or Resolution by Councilmembers at the request of any person, firm or organization is a courtesy extended by the Councilmembers and not an indication of their position.**

Agencies

_____	Baltimore City Public School System
_____	Baltimore Development Corporation
_____	City Solicitor
_____	Comptroller's Office
_____	Department of Audits
_____	Department of Finance
_____	Department of General Services
_____	Department of Housing and Community Development
_____	Department of Human Resources
_____	Department of Planning
_____	Other: Baltimore office of promotion of the Arts
_____	Other: Visit Baltimore
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Board of Estimates
_____	Board of Ethics
_____	Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals
_____	Comm. for Historical and Architectural Preservation
_____	Commission on Sustainability
_____	Employees' Retirement System
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Environmental Control Board
_____	Fire & Police Employees' Retirement System
_____	Labor Commissioner
_____	Parking Authority Board
_____	Planning Commission
_____	Wage Commission
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____

Boards and Commissions

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 19-0141R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Pinkett, Costello, Henry, Bullock, Burnett, Cohen, Schleifer,
President Young, Councilmembers Scott, Clarke, Stokes, Sneed, Reisinger, Middleton
Introduced and read first time: February 25, 2019
Assigned to: Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee
Committee Report: Favorable
Adopted: March 18, 2019

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District

FOR the purpose of designating the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within defined boundaries as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

Recitals

WHEREAS, The proposed Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District, a project of Baltimore City, includes the area bounded by: on the north, Fulton Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue; on the south Dolphin Street and Pennsylvania Avenue; on the east, Woodbrook Avenue, Druid Hill Avenue, Division Street, and Etting Street; and on the west, Bruce Street, Calhoun Street, Carey Street, Fremont Avenue, and Argyle Avenue.

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania Avenue has the potential to become a well-recognized, labeled, mixed-use area of the City in which a high concentration of arts and cultural facilities serve as the anchor attraction.

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland current does not have an Arts and Entertainment District uniquely dedicated to the cultural expressions of African Americans, and Pennsylvania Avenue has a highly concentrated African American population that once served as a destination for Black art and entertainment, and is therefore the perfect location for such a District.

WHEREAS, Redlining, blockbusting, and racial covenants have led to decades of impoverished Black communities across Baltimore City, which still experience systemic disinvestment.

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District seeks to revitalize historic West Baltimore via arts and entertainment.

WHEREAS, Under State law the creation of the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District will provide an income tax subtraction modification for qualified artists residing in the district, as well as authorize the City to grant a property tax credit for certain renovated buildings within the district to grant certain exemptions from the admissions and amusement tax.

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

Council Bill 19-0141R

1 **WHEREAS**, The creation of the District seeks to promote cultural and art-focused events,
2 encourage equitable community development, preserve historic cultural sites, and facilitate area
3 improvements that lead to the vitality of community-based, Black-owned enterprises, and Black-
4 led artistic and cultural endeavors.

5 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, that the
6 Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within defined boundaries is
7 designated as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

8 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Maryland State
9 Arts Council's Program Director of the Arts and Entertainment Districts and the Mayor's
10 Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL

TAXATION, FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

VOTING RECORD

DATE: March 14, 2019

BILL#: 19-0141R

BILL TITLE: Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District

MOTION BY: Pinkett SECONDED BY: Costello

FAVORABLE

FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

UNFAVORABLE


WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Middleton, Sharon, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pinkett, Leon, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Costello, Eric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reisinger, Edward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stokes, Robert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOTALS				

CHAIRPERSON: _____

COMMITTEE STAFF: Samuel Johnson, Initials: _____

Robert Cennamo

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Robert Cennamo, Chief	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432, City Hall (410) 396-4774		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill #19-0141R – Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District		

DATE:

TO

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
Room 400, City Hall

March 13, 2019

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill Resolution #19-0141R, introduced for the purpose of designating the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within defined boundaries as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

Background:

The State of Maryland, via the Maryland State Arts Council, designates certain areas as Arts and Entertainment District. The intent is to help foster tourism and revitalization efforts through incentives that attract artists, arts organizations, and other creative enterprises. The City currently has three designated districts: Station North, Highlandtown, and the Bromo Tower.

Impact/ Analysis

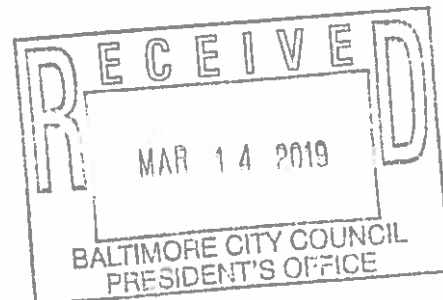
As part of the application process to the State, the local jurisdiction must provide a commitment to offer incentives to enterprises and qualifying residing artists if the request for designation is approved. These incentives could include a property tax credit, an exemption from Admissions and Amusements taxes, or other incentives as provided by the local jurisdiction. In order to estimate the fiscal impact of a new District, Finance would need to work with other stakeholders on a proposed plan and incentives.

Conclusion

The Department of Finance looks forward to participating in discussions in relation to City Council Bill #19-0141R.

cc: Henry Raymond
Jeffrey Amoros

Comments



CITY OF BALTIMORE

CATHERINE E. PUGH, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

ANDRE M. DAVIS, City Solicitor
101 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

March 13, 2019

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

Re: City Council Bill 19-0141R– Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts
and Entertainment District

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0141R for form and legal sufficiency. The resolution is for the purpose of designating the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within defined boundaries as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

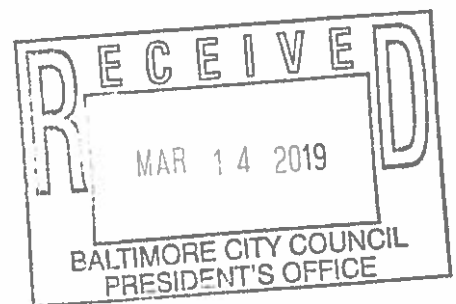
MD. Ann. Code, State Econ. Dev. Art. provides for the creation of arts and entertainment districts. A political subdivision of the State can apply to designate an area as an arts and entertainment district. §4-703. COMAR 24.05.26.04 requires that an application "shall include a written expression of sentiment of the local elected governing body or bodies regarding the filing of an application for designation. The expression of sentiment may be in the form of a letter or a resolution at the discretion of the local jurisdiction." Resolution 19-0141R satisfies this requirement.

Accordingly, the Law Department approves for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,

Elena R. DiPietro
Chief Solicitor

cc: Andre Davis, City Solicitor
Jeff Amoros, Mayor's Legislative Liaison
Michael Huber, President's Legislative Director
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Victor Tervala, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor



BALTIMORE
OFFICE OF PROMOTION & THE ARTS

March 13, 2019
TO: Baltimore City Council

FROM: Donna Drew Sawyer, CEO, Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts

RE: Council Bill 19-0141R - Creation of the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District

Honorable Council President Young and members of the Baltimore City Council:

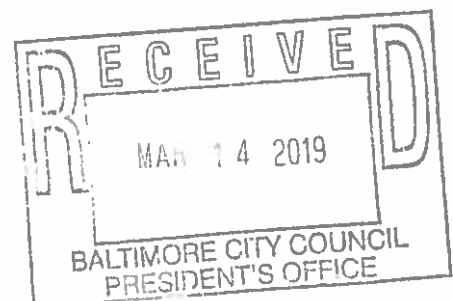
On behalf of the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts, Baltimore City's dedicated Arts Council, we support the "Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District," as Baltimore City's fourth proposed Arts and Entertainment District. Pennsylvania Avenue is the historic heart of African-American culture in the City of Baltimore. Serving as the city's premier entertainment destination when black performers were not allowed in white venues, the Avenue corridor was a place of cultural vibrancy.

Today with the support of the proposed District's anchor institutions—Arch Social Club, Shake and Bake Family Center, Jubilee Arts, Baltimore Public Market: Avenue Market, Enoch Pratt Free Library Pennsylvania Avenue Branch—and community organizations—Leaders for a Beautiful Struggle, Pennsylvania Avenue Main Street, Fight Blight Baltimore Neighborhood Design Center, Upton CDC, Druid Heights CDC—the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts District seeks "to promote cultural and art-focused events, encourage equitable community development, preserve historic cultural sites, and facilitate area improvements that lead to the vitality of community-based, Black-owned enterprises, and Black-led artistic/cultural endeavors."

Building off recommendations taken from Urban Land Institute's 2015/16 Technical Assistance Panel convening and final report, Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District will inspire and unify the neighborhood's existing residents, foster collaboration among the community's stakeholders, and create a geographically defined area to concentrate cultural activation and investment. As noted in the report, the community "yearns to reclaim their proud heritage of African-American entertainment, culture, and commerce."

Finally, The Maryland Department of Transportation's Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) and the City of Baltimore have partnered to revitalize a main artery bordering the proposed District. A \$27 million project, it will provide the North Avenue corridor with a multi-modal investment in bicycle, pedestrian, and transit improvements. Along with this federally funded TIGER grant, the City of Baltimore will further support economic revitalization, and invest in the creative community there, by offering the property tax credit, the admissions and amusement tax exemption, and the income tax subtraction modification for qualifying work sold by residing artists in the proposed Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts District.

Respectfully,





BALTIMORE CITY
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MEMORANDUM

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

From: Michael Braverman, Housing Commissioner *MBW*

Date: March 13, 2019

Re: **City Council Bill 19-0141R, Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0141R, for the purpose of designating the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within defined boundaries as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

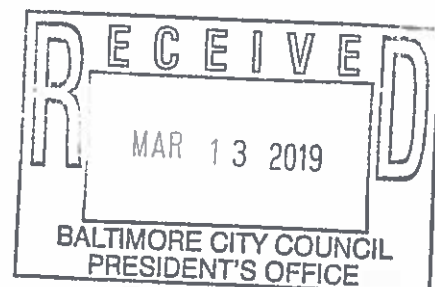
The proposed boundary includes the area bounded by: on the north, Fulton Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue; on the south Dolphin Street and Pennsylvania Avenue; on the east, Woodbrook Avenue, Druid Hill Avenue, Division Street, and Etting Street; and on the west, Bruce Street, Calhoun Street, Carey Street, Fremont Avenue, and Argyle Avenue.

As highlighted in its recently released Community Development Framework, DHCD has defined the portions of Upton, Druid Heights and Penn North along the spine of Pennsylvania Avenue as an Impact Investment Area. DHCD recognizes the unique architectural and historical significance of the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor, and is committed to working with community partners to leverage private and other resources in order to transform it into a stable and thriving area.


DHCD supports the passage of City Council Bill 19-0141R.

MB:td

cc: Mr. Jeffrey Amoros, Mayor's Office of Government Relations



MR for

FROM	NAME & TITLE	CHRIS RYER, DIRECTOR	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 8 TH FLOOR, 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL #19-0141R/ CREATION OF PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE BLACK ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT		

TO

The Honorable President and
 Members of the City Council
 City Hall, Room 400
 100 North Holliday Street

DATE: March 13, 2019

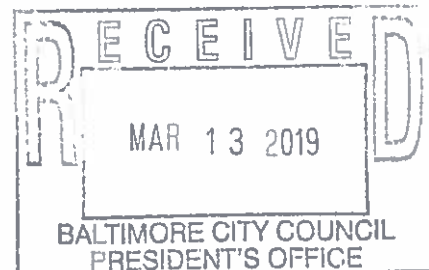
The Department of Planning is in receipt of City Council Bill #19-0141R, which would designate the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within the defined boundaries as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

The Department of Planning recommends approval of City Council Bill #19-0141R as the designation of Pennsylvania Avenue as an Arts and Entertainment District by the Maryland State Arts Council will further revitalize this historic corridor by providing an income tax subtraction modification for qualified artists residing in the district, as well as authorizing the City of Baltimore to grant a property tax credit for certain renovated buildings within the district and grant certain exemptions from the admissions and amusement tax. We fully support this important designation and we are eager to assist in a supportive role.

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

CR/ET

- cc: Mr. Pete Hammen, Chief Operating Officer
 Mr. Jim Smith, Chief of Strategic Alliances
 Ms. Karen Stokes, Mayor's Office
 Mr. Colin Tarbert, Mayor's Office
 Mr. Jeff Amoros, Mayor's Office
 The Honorable Edward Reisinger, Council Rep. to Planning Commission
 Mr. William H. Cole IV, BDC
 Mr. Derek Baumgardner, BMZA
 Mr. Geoffrey Veale, Zoning Administration
 Ms. Sharon Daboin, DHCD
 Mr. Tyrell Dixon, DCHD
 Ms. Elena DiPietro, Law Dept.
 Mr. Francis Burnszynski, PABC
 Mr. Frank Murphy, DOT
 Ms. Eboni Wimbush, DOT
 Ms. Natawna Austin, Council Services
 Mr. Ervin Bishop, Council Services



A

March 12, 2019

TO: Baltimore City Council
FROM: Al Hutchinson, President and CEO, Visit Baltimore
RE: **COUNCIL BILL 19-0141R** – Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts & Entertainment District

Honorable Council President Young and members of the Baltimore City Council:


Visit Baltimore's ability to deliver on our mission – to craft a destination story that is both authentic and compelling – is contingent upon our tourism assets. We wholeheartedly believe that a designated Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts & Entertainment District would strengthen our efforts to promote Baltimore as a premier visitor and meetings destination.

Baltimore's visitors enjoy our historic places and cultural assets at higher rates than in other U.S. destinations; and, we continue to outpace the national average for attracting visitors that identify as people of color. As a meetings destination, we are also leading our peers in the attraction and servicing of multicultural meetings. Institutions and organizations that celebrate and showcase Baltimore's rich African American history and heritage, as well as our equally diverse and world-class arts and culture scene, are central ingredients to our tourism successes and continued growth. Pennsylvania Avenue is a part of this story, as Visit Baltimore tells through initiatives including but not limited to enhanced Pennsylvania Avenue/Upton neighborhood pages on Baltimore.org; special tours bringing visitors to and through the neighborhood to enjoy monuments such as the Billie Holiday statue and history of the Royal Theatre through expert reenactors and guides; and, regular collaboration with as well as promotion of neighborhood venues such as The Avenue Bakery in our culinary marketing campaigns. Despite these promotional efforts, and largely due to infrastructure and investment issues shaping the visitor experience, Pennsylvania Avenue remains a largely untapped asset. City investments are needed to change the tide and put this tremendous and uniquely Baltimore asset on the tourism map.

A&E District establishment is one way in which the City can take action and extend the positive and catalytic benefits experienced in other A&E Districts to Pennsylvania Avenue and its surrounding neighborhoods. Those benefits include (but are not limited to) the attraction of additional investments, businesses and residents through the special tax credits and incentive programs noted in CB 19-0141R.

In a city that is predominantly African American and has a rich history of arts and culture, the opportunity associated with an arts district dedicated to Black culture is tremendous. Visit Baltimore offers its full support of this Resolution and pledges to be an active promotional partner in the outcome.

Submitted respectfully,

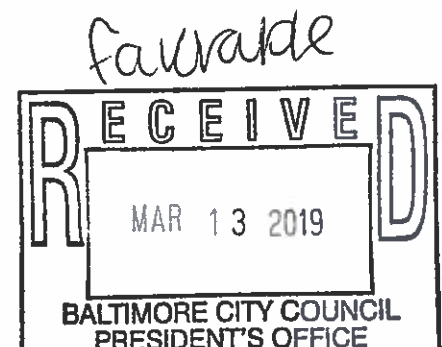


Al Hutchinson
President & CEO

100 Light Street, 12th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202

O 410.659.7300
F 443.817.0613

Baltimore.org





MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 12, 2019
TO: Taxation, Finance and Economic Development
FROM: William H. Cole, President and CEO *W. Cole*
POSITION: Support
SUBJECT: Council Bill 19-0141R - Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District

INTRODUCTION

The Baltimore Development Corporation is reporting on City Council Bill 19-0141R introduced by Councilmembers Pinkett, Costello, Henry, Bullock, Cohen, Schleifer, Councilmembers Scott, Clarke, Stokes, Sneed, Reisinger and Middleton, and Council President Young.

PURPOSE

For the purpose of designating the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within defined boundaries as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

BRIEF HISTORY

Pennsylvania Avenue is well recognized in the city for its history as a destination for arts and culture in the African American community. There are currently no Arts and Entertainment Districts in the state of Maryland dedicated to African American culture. This designation will provide Pennsylvania Avenue with an important tool to attract new investment to the commercial corridor.

FISCAL IMPACT

NONE

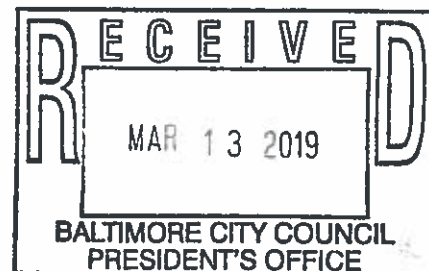
AGENCY POSITION

The Baltimore Development Corporation Supports City Council Bill 19-0141R

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kimberly Clark at kclark@baltimoredevelopment.com or 410-837-9305.

cc: Jeffrey Amoros

[DG]



City of Baltimore

City Council
City Hall, Room 408
100 North Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland
21202

Meeting Minutes - Final

Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee

Thursday, March 14, 2019

10:05 AM

Du Burns Council Chamber, 4th floor, City Hall

19-0141R

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

- Present** 4 - Member Sharon Green Middleton, Member Leon F. Pinkett III, Member Eric T. Costello, and Member Robert Stokes Sr.
- Excused** 1 - Member Edward Reisinger

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

19-0141R **Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District**
For the purpose of designating the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within defined boundaries as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

Sponsors: Leon F. Pinkett, III, Eric T. Costello, Bill Henry, John T. Bullock, Kristerfer Burnett, Zeke Cohen, Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, President Young, Brandon M. Scott, Shannon Sneed, Sharon Green Middleton, Robert Stokes, Sr., Mary Pat Clarke, Edward Reisinger

A motion was made by member Pinkett III, seconded by member Costello, that City Council Resolution 19-0141 be recommended favorably. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Member Middleton, Member Pinkett III, Member Costello, and Member Stokes Sr.

ADJOURNMENT



HEARING NOTES

Mayor and City Council Resolution: 19-0141

Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District

Committee: Taxation, Finance and Economic Development
Chaired By: Councilmember Sharon Green-Middleton

Hearing Date: March 14, 2019
Time (Beginning): 10:12 a.m.
Time (Ending): 10:40 a.m.
Location: Clarence "Du" Burns Chambers
Total Attendance: Approximately 15 – 20 people
Committee Members in Attendance:
Sharon Green Middleton
Leon Pinkett
Edward Reisinger
Robert Stokes
Eric Costello

Bill Synopsis in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Attendance sheet in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Agency reports read?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Hearing televised or audio-digitally recorded?.....	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file?.....	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Evidence of notification to property owners?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Final vote taken at this hearing?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Motioned by:	Councilmember Pinkett		
Seconded by:.....	Councilmember Costello		
Final Vote:	4 – 0		

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Eleana DiPietro, Law Department
- Tyrell Dixon, Housing and Community Development
- David Garza, Baltimore Development Corporation
- Bob Cennane, Finance Department
- Al Hutchinson, Visit Baltimore

- Krista Green, Baltimore Office of Promotions and Arts

Major Issues Discussed

1. Councilwoman Middleton read the bill into the record and introduced committee members.
2. Councilman Pinkett offer comments in support of the resolution and why he sponsored the legislation.
3. Eleana DiPietro, Law – Read agency report into the record.
4. Tyrell Dixon, HCD – Read agency report into the record.
5. David Garza, Baltimore Development Corporation – Read agency report into the record.
6. Al Hutchinson, Visit Baltimore – Read agency report into the record.
7. Krista Green, BOPA – Read agency report into the record.
8. Bob Cename, Finance – Read agency report into the record.
9. There were 2 people who testified at this hearing.
10. There were approximately 15 – 20 people in attendance at this hearing.
11. There was no written testimony.
12. This hearing was adjourned, this bill will go on to be presented at the March 18, 2019 City Council meeting.

Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes No

If yes, describe. N/A

Committee Vote:

S. Middleton: Yea
 L. Pinkett: Yea
 E. Costello: Yea
 E. Reisinger: Absent
 R. Stokes: Yea

Samuel Johnson , Committee Staff
 (410) 396-1091
 cc: Bill File
 OCS Chrono File

Date: March 14, 2019



CITY OF BALTIMORE

CITY COUNCIL HEARING ATTENDANCE RECORD

Committee: Taxation, Finance and Economic Development

Chairperson: Sharon Green-Middleton

Date: March 14, 2019

Time: 10:05a.m.

Place: Clarence "Du" Burns Council Chambers

Subject: Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District

CC Bill Number: 19-0141R

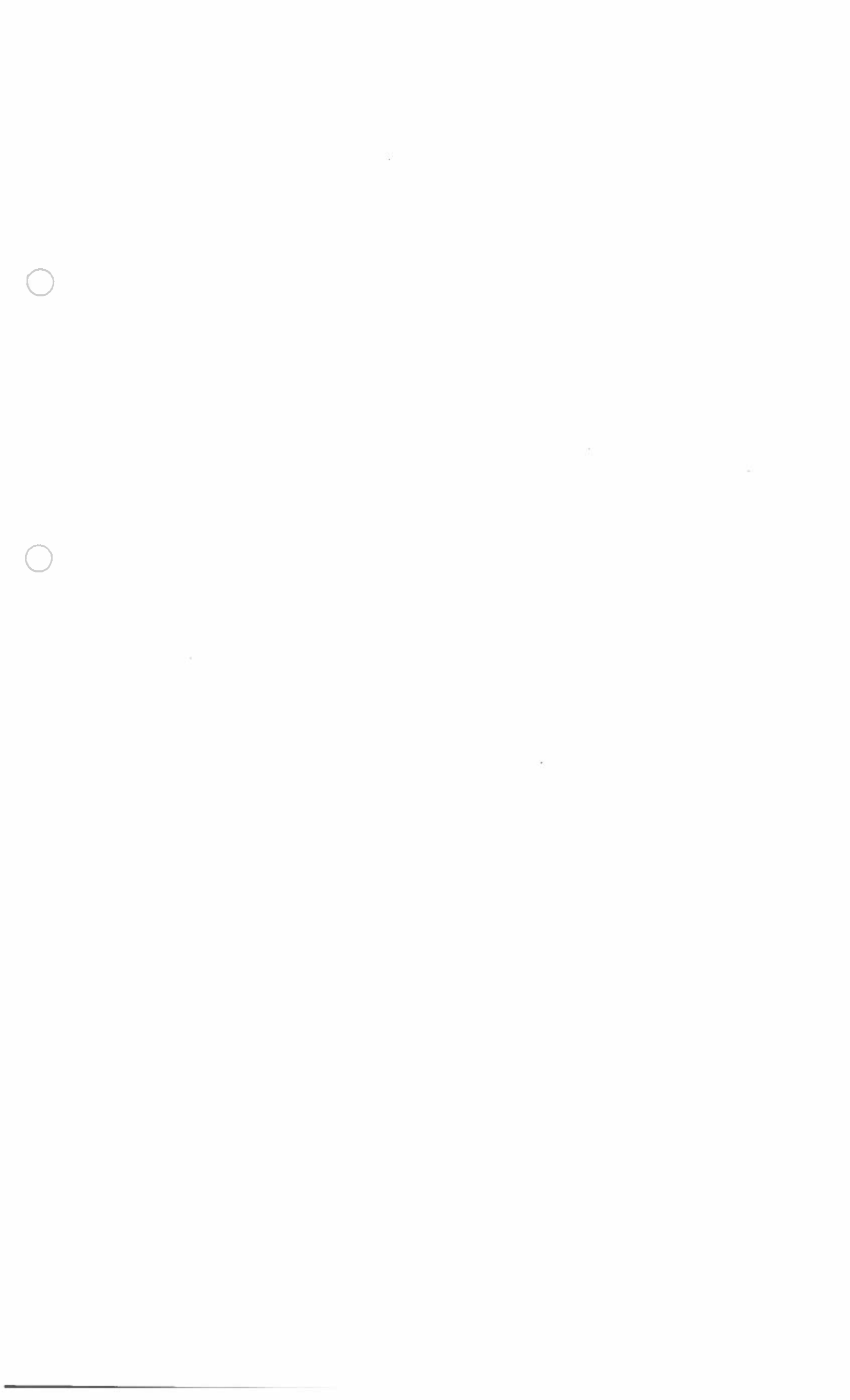
PLEASE PRINT

IF YOU WANT TO TESTIFY PLEASE CHECK HERE



FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	St. #	ADDRESS/ORGANIZATION NAME	ZIP	EMAIL ADDRESS	TESTIFY	FOR	AGAINST	YES	NO
John	Doe	100	North Charles Street	21202	Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
✓ Jani	Faw	2126	Pennsylvania Ave	21217	brotherj.faw@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
✓ David	GARZA	36	South Charles St.	21201	dgarza@baltimoredevelopment.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
✓ KRISTA	GREENE	10	E BALTIMORE ST	21202	kgreen@promotionalandarts.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
✓ Beion	Gill	5933	Padock Ave Apt A	21206	ledybi.in.gill@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓ Arriel	Humphrey		DOP		ariel.humphrey@baltimorecity.gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(* NOTE: IF YOU ARE COMPENSATED OR INCUR EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS BILL, YOU MAY BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO REGISTER WITH THE CITY ETHICS BOARD. REGISTRATION IS A SIMPLE PROCESS. FOR INFORMATION AND FORMS, CALL OR WRITE: BALTIMORE CITY BOARD OF ETHICS, C/O DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE, 626 CITY HALL, BALTIMORE, MD 21202. TEL: 410-396-4730; FAX: 410-396-8483.



City of Baltimore

City Council
City Hall, Room 408
100 North Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland
21202

Meeting Agenda - Final

Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee

Thursday, March 14, 2019

10:05 AM

Du Burns Council Chamber, 4th floor, City Hall

19-0141R

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

19-0141R

Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District
For the purpose of designating the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and
surrounding communities within defined boundaries as the Pennsylvania
Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

Sponsors:

Leon F. Pinkett, III, Eric T. Costello, Bill Henry, John T. Bullock, Kristerfer Burnett, Zeke
Cohen, Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, President Young, Brandon M. Scott, Shannon Sneed,
Sharon Green Middleton, Robert Stokes, Sr., Mary Pat Clarke, Edward Reisinger

Attachments:

[19-0141R~1st Reader](#)

[Visit Baltimore 19-0141R](#)

[BDC 19-0141R](#)

[HCD 19-0141R](#)

[Planning 19-0141R](#)

ADJOURNMENT

THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Taxation, Finance and Economic Development

City Council Resolution 19-0141

Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District

Sponsor: Councilman Leon Pinkett

Introduced: February 25, 2019

Purpose:

For the purpose of designating the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within defined boundaries as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

Effective: On the date of enactment

Hearing Date/Time/Location: March 14, 2019 / 10:05 a.m. / Clarence "Du" Burns Chamber

Agency Reports

City Solicitor	
Department of Planning	
Department of Housing and Community Development	
Baltimore Development Corporation	
Department of Finance	
Visit Baltimore	
Office of Promotions and Arts	

Analysis

What is an Arts District?

An arts district is a designation used as a revitalization tool that offers certain legal and financial benefits, given to an area of a city in the hope of drawing artists of various types and/or their customers to the community, as well as attracting ancillary businesses.

Current Action

In 2017-2018 the Mayor's Safe Arts Task Force recommended that a Black Arts and Entertainment District be created along the Pennsylvania Ave thoroughfare. If enacted, Bill 19-0141R would support the Arts and Entertainment application for this designation. The footprint in this Art & Entertainment district would cover Fulton and Pennsylvania Avenue to the north, Dolphin and Pennsylvania Avenue to the south, and approximately a block east and west respectively.

Benefits of Arts & Entertainment Districts

The Maryland State Arts Council approves the designation of Arts & Entertainment districts. The designations make available incentives to promote arts activity within specified geographical areas. The benefits of these districts include property tax credits for new construction or renovation of certain buildings that create live-work space for artists and/or space for arts and entertainment enterprises. They allow for an income tax subtraction modification for income derived from artistic work executed and sold within the districts by "qualifying residing artists." It also provides for an exemption from the admission and amusement tax levied by an "arts and entertainment enterprise" or "qualifying residing artist" in a district.

Background

In 2010, the Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts (BOPA) submitted a letter of interest to the National Endowment for the Arts requesting \$250,000, which the city would match, to study the feasibility and plan for the establishment of a West Side Arts District. In the letter, BOPA expressed its intent of the district designation as a way to connect a rich array of artists and arts organizations with both downtown businesses and surrounding residential neighborhoods.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: Not Available

Information Source(s): University of Maryland: Examining the Establishment of an Arts District on Baltimore's West Side, Maryland State Arts Council

Analysis by: Samuel Johnson
Analysis Date: March 12, 2019

Direct Inquiries to: (410) 396-1091

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 19-0141R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Pinkett, Costello, Henry, Bullock, Burnett, Cohen, Schleifer,
President Young, Councilmembers Scott, Clarke, Stokes, Sneed, Reisinger, Middleton
Introduced and read first time: February 25, 2019

Assigned to: Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Housing and Community
Development, Department of Planning, Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts, Baltimore
Development Corporation, Visit Baltimore, Department of Finance

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District**

3 FOR the purpose of designating the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities
4 within defined boundaries as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment
5 District.

6 **Recitals**

7 **WHEREAS**, The proposed Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District, a
8 project of Baltimore City, includes the area bounded by: on the north, Fulton Avenue and
9 Pennsylvania Avenue; on the south Dolphin Street and Pennsylvania Avenue; on the east,
10 Woodbrook Avenue, Druid Hill Avenue, Division Street, and Etting Street; and on the west,
11 Bruce Street, Calhoun Street, Carey Street, Fremont Avenue, and Argyle Avenue.

12 **WHEREAS**, Pennsylvania Avenue has the potential to become a well-recognized, labeled,
13 mixed-use area of the City in which a high concentration of arts and cultural facilities serve as
14 the anchor attraction.

15 **WHEREAS**, The State of Maryland current does not have an Arts and Entertainment District
16 uniquely dedicated to the cultural expressions of African Americans, and Pennsylvania Avenue
17 has a highly concentrated African American population that once served as a destination for
18 Black art and entertainment, and is therefore the perfect location for such a District.

19 **WHEREAS**, Redlining, blockbusting, and racial covenants have led to decades of
20 impoverished Black communities across Baltimore City, which still experience systemic
21 disinvestment.

22 **WHEREAS**, The Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District seeks to
23 revitalize historic West Baltimore via arts and entertainment.

24 **WHEREAS**, Under State law the creation of the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and
25 Entertainment District will provide an income tax subtraction modification for qualified artists
26 residing in the district, as well as authorize the City to grant a property tax credit for certain

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

Council Bill 19-0141R

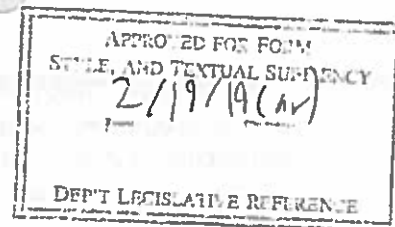
1 renovated buildings within the district to grant certain exemptions from the admissions and
2 amusement tax.

3 **WHEREAS**, The creation of the District seeks to promote cultural and art-focused events,
4 encourage equitable community development, preserve historic cultural sites, and facilitate area
5 improvements that lead to the vitality of community-based, Black-owned enterprises, and Black-
6 led artistic and cultural endeavors.

7 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, that the
8 Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within defined boundaries is
9 designated as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

10 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Maryland State
11 Arts Council's Program Director of the Arts and Entertainment Districts and the Mayor's
12 Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

INTRODUCTORY*
CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL _____ R
(Resolution)



Introduced by: Councilmember Pinkett

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

Creation of Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District

FOR the purpose of designating the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within defined boundaries as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

Recitals

WHEREAS, The proposed Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District, a project of Baltimore City, includes the area bounded by: on the north, Fulton Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue; on the south Dolphin Street and Pennsylvania Avenue; on the east, Woodbrook Avenue, Druid Hill Avenue, Division Street, and Etting Street; and on the west, Bruce Street, Calhoun Street, Carey Street, Fremont Avenue, and Argyle Avenue.

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania Avenue has the potential to become a well-recognized, labeled, mixed-use area of the City in which a high concentration of arts and cultural facilities serve as the anchor attraction.

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland current does not have an Arts and Entertainment District uniquely dedicated to the cultural expressions of African Americans, and Pennsylvania Avenue has a highly concentrated African American population that once served as a destination for Black art and entertainment, and is therefore the perfect location for such a District.

WHEREAS, Redlining, blockbusting, and racial covenants have led to decades of impoverished Black communities across Baltimore City, which still experience systemic disinvestment.

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District seeks to revitalize historic West Baltimore via arts and entertainment.

WHEREAS, Under State law the creation of the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District will provide an income tax subtraction modification for qualified artists residing in the district, as well as authorize the City to grant a property tax credit for certain renovated buildings within the district to grant certain exemptions from the admissions and amusement tax.

* WARNING: THIS IS AN UNOFFICIAL, INTRODUCTORY COPY OF THE BILL.
THE OFFICIAL COPY CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IS THE FIRST READER COPY.

WHEREAS, The creation of the District seeks to promote cultural and art-focused events, encourage equitable community development, preserve historic cultural sites, and facilitate area improvements that lead to the vitality of community-based, Black-owned enterprises, and Black-led artistic and cultural endeavors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, that the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor and surrounding communities within defined boundaries is designated as the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Maryland State Arts Council's Program Director of the Arts and Entertainment Districts and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

PLATE 1
1850-1860

1850-1860

ACTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL

FEB 25 2019

FIRST READING (INTRODUCTION) _____ 20 _____

PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON _____ March 14 20 19

COMMITTEE REPORT AS OF _____ March 18 20 19

FAVORABLE _____ UNFAVORABLE _____ FAVORABLE AS AMENDED _____ WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

Shane D. Steed 3/14/19
Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

SECOND READING: The Council's action being favorable (unfavorable), this City Council bill was (was not) ordered printed for
Third Reading on:

MAR 18 2019

_____ 20 _____

_____ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING _____ 20 _____

_____ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING (ENROLLED) _____ 20 _____

_____ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING (RE-ENROLLED) _____ 20 _____

WITHDRAWAL _____ 20 _____

There being no objections to the request for withdrawal, it was so ordered that this City Council Ordinance be withdrawn from the files of the City Council.

President

Chief Clerk