



MEMORANDUM

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

From: Christine Griffin, Deputy Director of Policy and Government Relations

Date: August 22, 2024

Re: 24-0570 City Property - Naming the Playground Located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground

Position: Favorable

The Department of Real Estate is responding to the request for a report on City Council bill 24-0570 City Property - Naming the Playground Located at Lake Montebello to be the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground. The bill would take effect 30 days after it is enacted.

The playground in Northeast Baltimore is located on City property under the control of the Department of Recreation and Parks.

Councilperson Clarke served 32 years on the Baltimore City Council, including eight as the City of Baltimore’s first female council president, from 1987-1995. Additionally, she was the councilperson for District 2, from 1975-1983, and then District 14, from 2004-2020. Throughout her tenure, she served on several council committees and was a strong advocate for integrating electoral slates, which led to the election of several African Americans to City Council in the 1970s.

Naming the playground the City Council President Mary Pat Clarke Playground is an honor well-earned and is a fitting way to recognize her legacy and commemorate her many contributions to the City of Baltimore and the State of Maryland.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Real Estate supports the passage of City Council bill 24-0570.