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<b>FROM</b>	<b>NAME &amp; TITLE</b>	THOMAS J. STOSUR, ACTING DIRECTOR
	<b>AGENCY NAME &amp; ADDRESS</b>	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET, 8 <sup>TH</sup> FLOOR
	<b>SUBJECT</b>	CCB #09-0270/ CITY PROPERTY- RENAMING BENJAMIN FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL #239 TO MASONVILLE COVE COMMUNITY ACADEMY #239

CITY of  
BALTIMORE  
**MEMO**



**TO**

DATE:  
February 20, 2009

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

The Department of Planning has received City Council Bill #09-0270 concerning the name changing of school known as Benjamin Franklin Middle School #239 to Masonville Cove Community Academy #239. The renaming of this school is part of a community's effort to have their neighborhood school reflect their community. The school also is in the process of being converted from a middle school to a high school.

In its consideration of this Bill, the Planning Commission reviewed the attached staff report which recommended approval of City Council Bill #09-0270 and adopted the following resolution, eight members being present and eight in favor.

RESOLVED, That the Planning Commission concurs with the recommendation of its departmental staff, and recommends that City Council Bill #09-0270 be passed by the City Council.

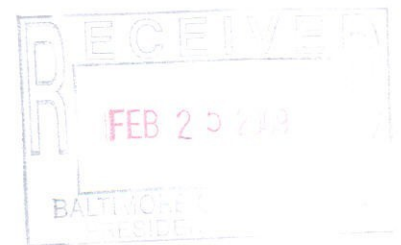
If you have any questions, please contact Wolde Ararsa, Division Chief of Land Use and Urban Design, at (410) 396-4488.

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Attachment

CC:

- Mr. Andrew Frank, Deputy Mayor
- Mr. Demuane Millard, Chief of Staff
- Ms. Angela Gibson, Mayor's Office
- The Honorable "Rikki" Spector, City Council Rep – Planning Commission
- Mr. Paul Graziano, Commissioner of DHCD
- Ms. Nikol Naybors-Jackson, DHCD
- Mr. David Tanner, BMZA
- Mr. Larry Greene, Council Services
- Mr. Geoffrey Veale, Zoning Administration
- Mr. Keith Scroggins, BCPSS



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## PLANNING COMMISSION

### STAFF REPORT

February 19, 2009

**REQUEST:** City Council Bill 09-0270 - Renaming Benjamin Franklin School #239 to Masonville Cove Community Academy #239

For the purpose of changing the name of Benjamin Franklin Middle School #239 to Masonville Cove Community Academy #239

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approval

**STAFF:** Melvin Hicks

**PETITIONERS:** The Administration (Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners)

**OWNER:** Mayor and City Council

#### **SITE/GENERAL AREA**

Site Conditions: The subject property is located at 1201 Cambria Street (Block 7270, Lot 1). It is improved with an existing school building that occupies the majority of the block. The school site is also improved with a green open space and a parking lot.

General Area: Benjamin Franklin Middle School #239 is located on the corner of Cambria Street and West Bay Avenue. This site is located in the Curtis Bay neighborhood of Baltimore City. This site is surrounded by multi-family housing, a church, and local businesses.

#### **HISTORY**

There are no previous legislative or Planning Commission actions regarding this site.

#### **CONFORMITY TO PLANS**

This action is consistent with the City of Baltimore's Comprehensive Master Plan, with respect to enhancing public schools and library facilities as neighborhood assets.

#### **ANALYSIS**

This bill will rename Benjamin Franklin Middle School #239 to Masonville Cove Community Academy #239. The renaming of this school is part of the community's effort to have their neighborhood school reflect their community. The school also is in the process of being converted from a middle school to a high school. This conversion is a part of Baltimore City Public School System's initiative to align school facilities with

school population and instructional needs. Ultimately, this conversion will promote and provide better learning environments for its students.

Staff notified the Curtis Bay Association, Brooklyn and Curtis Bay Coalition, the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners, Baltimore City Public School System's Chief Executive Officer, Baltimore City Public School System School and Facilities Planning Office, Office of the Chief Operation Officer, and the City Council Representative of this action.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. Stosur". The signature is stylized with a large initial "T" and a prominent flourish at the end.

**Thomas J. Stosur**  
**Acting Director**