

August 21, 2023

Mayor Brandon Scott  
City Council of Baltimore City  
City Hall  
100 N Holliday St  
Baltimore, MD 21202

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Yolanda Jiggetts

**Re: City Property- Renaming Cottage Avenue Park to Candy Stripe Park**

Dear Mayor Scott and Members of the Baltimore City Council,

I am writing to express my full support for the renaming of Cottage Avenue Park to Candy Stripe Park. The renaming of the park would be a significant step towards embracing inclusivity, cultural diversity, and a shared commitment to creating a more harmonious community and city.

Parks are essential community spaces that should reflect the values and aspirations of its residents. By renaming the park to Candy Stripe Park, we have an opportunity to honor the residents of the community who have made exceptional contributions to our community and city's heritage, progress, or social fabric. Considering the rich history and diversity of Baltimore City, selecting a meaningful name that is adopted by the residents will symbolize the collective appreciation of our community's shared past and future goals.

Additionally, renaming the park will serve as a powerful catalyst for promoting unity among the diverse groups that call Baltimore City home. By acknowledging the historical significance the park has on the Park Heights Community, we can create a sense of pride, belonging, and shared purpose. This inclusive approach aligns with the broader vision of Baltimore City as a place where everyone feels valued and respected, regardless of background or identity.

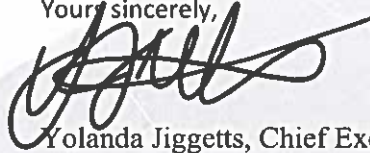
Moreover, we envision the renaming of the park will also provide an educational opportunity for residents of all ages and will be the first step in preparing for future renovations that have been identified by BCRP in FY25. By selecting a name that reflects significant time in our city, we can inspire curiosity and encourage residents to embrace our shared history. Including educational resources, such as plaques or informational signs, can add layers of understanding and appreciation for the people and events represented by the newly named park.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate my strong support for the renaming of Cottage Avenue Park to Candy Stripe Park and Park Heights Renaissance would also like to be a partner in supporting beautification aspects of the project, while waiting for the future renovations to launch.

This endeavor not only recognizes the richness of the Park Heights community but also enhances collaborative and strategic partnerships in the Park Heights community. We commend Vice President Middleton for introducing this bill and the Mayor and City Council for your dedication to promoting inclusivity and your consideration of this significant change.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued commitment to making Park Heights and Baltimore City a welcoming and thriving place for all residents.

Your sincerely,



Yolanda Jiggetts, Chief Executive Officer

*No goods or services were exchanged for your contribution. As a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, your contribution to Park Heights Renaissance is tax-deductible to the full extent permitted by law. Please retain this letter for your tax records.*