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| <b>F<br/>R<br/>O<br/>M</b> | NAME & TITLE          | Steve Sharkey, Director  | CITY of<br>BALTIMORE |  |
|                            | AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS | Department of Transportation (DOT)<br>417 E Fayette Street, Room 527 |                      |   |
|                            | SUBJECT               | City Council Resolution 21-0068R                                     | M E M O              |   |

TO: Mayor Brandon M. Scott  
TO: Economic and Community Development Committee  
FROM: Department of Transportation  
POSITION: **Support**  
RE: Council Resolution – 21-0068R

DATE: 12/10/21

**INTRODUCTION** – Informational Hearing - Naming City Properties

**PURPOSE/PLANS** – For the purpose of inviting the City Solicitor and representatives from the Commission on Historical and Architectural Preservation, Department of Planning, Department of Transportation, Department of General Services, Baltimore Development Corporation, Department of Recreation and Parks, and the Department of Real Estate to brief the City Council regarding the standards, procedures, practices and policies for naming and renaming City property and the ceremonial naming of City streets, and to discuss possible revisions of current standards, in light of national trends, so that our standards better foster equity and unity.

**COMMENTS** – Council Resolution 21-0068R calls on Baltimore City Department of Transportation (DOT) and various City agencies to discuss the standards, procedures, practices and policies for naming and renaming City property and the ceremonial naming of City streets. The City’s process for naming and renaming of both public and private streets is outlined in Article 26, Subtitle 7 of the Baltimore City Code. The formal process requires City Council legislation and notice must meet the following criteria:

- The name may not be the same as the name of an existing street, avenue, or thoroughfare.
- The name may not be the name of a living person or persons.
- The name may not be the name of an existing or proposed business or of an existing or proposed product of a business.
- The name shall be given to the entire length of the street, avenue, or thoroughfare.

Article 31, Subtitle 2, Subsection 9 specifies DOT as the City agency responsible for street signs. Ceremonial street signs differ from permanent street naming and has its own process and set of standards. Since the summer of 2021, DOT has been working with the Administration on developing an updated Ceremonial Street Sign Policy. The new policy has been drafted and is currently going through final edits prior to being submitted to the Department of Legislative Reference to meet formal APA requirements.

**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION** – The Department of Transportation **supports** Council Resolution 21-0068R. If you have any questions, please contact Liam Davis at [Liam.Davis@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Liam.Davis@baltimorecity.gov) or at 410-545-3207.

Sincerely,

Steve Sharkey  
Director