



BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Economic and Community Development

Bill: 21-0068R

Informational Hearing - Naming City Properties

Sponsor: Councilmember Middleton

Introduced: October 4, 2021

Purpose:

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.

Agency Reports

City Solicitor	
Department of Planning	
Department of Recreation and Parks	No Objection
Department of Real Estate	
Baltimore Development Corporations	
Department of Transportation	
Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation	

Department of General Services	
Baltimore City Public Schools	

Analysis

Background

Bill 21-0068R invites representatives from city agencies to brief the Council regarding 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.

According to the Baltimore City Code, Article 5; Section 20, City properties are named or renamed by an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council. After a bill is introduced it is referred to the Planning Commission, the municipal agency that has or will have control over the City property; the Department of Real Estate; and any other agency that may have an interest in naming the City property. Within 30 days after referral, the Planning Commission and the municipal agency in control of the City property submits reports. If the reports are not received within the 30-day time period, the City Council may act on the legislation. The Council committee holds a hearing and then reports to the full Council.

By 1989, all municipal agencies were required to submit to the Planning Commission an inventory of all named and unnamed City property under their control. The Planning Commission was also required to submit a consolidated inventory of all named and unnamed City property to the Mayor and City Council and the Department of Legislative Reference.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: Not Available

Information Source(s): *Baltimore City Code*

Note: Baltimore City Public Schools has developed administrative regulations (See attached: Baltimore City Public Schools – Administrative Regulations FFR-RA) that are used for naming/renaming a school program or facility before submitting recommendations to the Council for review.

Johns Hopkins University, a private organization, also recently constituted a committee to establish principles on Naming. See the attached report Johns Hopkins University Committee to Establish Principles on Naming (CEPN); July 2021

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Analysis Date: December 9, 2021

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