

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 17-0045  
(First Reader)**

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Introduced by: Councilmember Burnett

Introduced and read first time: April 3, 2017

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Planning, Department of Transportation, Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **City Streets – Naming an Unnamed 15-Foot Lane, Located in the Vicinity of**  
3 **William Street and Beechwood Avenue, Unity Lane**

4 FOR the purpose of naming an unnamed 15-foot lane, located in the vicinity of William Street  
5 and Beechwood Avenue in the Franklintown Community and measuring approximately 315  
6 feet east of the William Street intersection and approximately 120 feet west of the William  
7 Street intersection, Unity Lane.

8 BY authority of

9 Article 26 - Surveys, Streets, and Highways  
10 Section 7-3  
11 Baltimore City Code  
12 (Edition 2000)

13 **Recitals**

14 Since the early 1900's, the unnamed 15-foot lane has been present, nameless, and  
15 recognized as a right of way by successive deeds and subdivision proposals. Two  
16 houses, located on two separate lots, were built adjacent to the unnamed lane  
17 probably in the first quarter of the 1900's, with their backs facing the lane and  
18 with their fronts facing Division Street, a proposed right of way that was never  
19 improved from its original wooded and rocky state. The unnamed lane has been  
20 the only means of entry/exit since the houses were built. The lane measures  
21 approximately 315 feet east of the William Street intersection and approximately  
22 120 feet west of the William Street intersection.

23 The owner-occupants of the properties adjacent to the unnamed 15-foot lane have  
24 requested that the lane be named. The lane is the only access to their homes.  
25 Division Street is an unimproved “paper street”, unlikely to have this status  
26 changed at any time in the near future because of immense and possibly  
27 prohibitive costs. Because of the lack of an official name for the lane, confusion  
28 has developed as to where the houses are actually to be found, and this has  
29 resulted in the delay of needed emergency service. Having an officially

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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1 recognized location of the houses will prevent the delay of emergency service and  
2 will also resolve confusion surrounding the right of way.

3 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the  
4 unnamed 15-foot lane, located in the vicinity of William Street and Beechwood Avenue in the  
5 Franklinton Community and measuring approximately 315 feet east of the William Street  
6 intersection and approximately 120 feet west of the William Street intersection, is named Unity  
7 Lane.

8 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30<sup>th</sup> day  
9 after the date it is enacted.