

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 17-0046
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Burnett

Introduced and read first time: April 3, 2017

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Planning Commission, Department of Real Estate, Department of Recreation and Parks, Department of Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **City Property – Renaming Harlem Denison Park to be the**
3 **William Donald Schaefer Park**

4 FOR the purpose of changing the name of Harlem Denison Park, located at 3421 Harlem Avenue,
5 to William Donald Schaefer Park.

6 BY authority of

7 Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement

8 Section 20-2

9 Baltimore City Code

10 (Edition 2000)

11 **Recitals**

12 For many years, Harlem Denison Park was an eyesore to the nearby residents
13 of the Edgewood Community. With litter scattered throughout the park's open
14 areas, with cracked sidewalks, and with unsafe, rusted fences, the park provided
15 negligible worth to the community. This year the blight was removed through the
16 help of the Parks and People foundation, which invested \$65,000 to improve the
17 area and to add new features. In the process of revitalizing the area, the
18 community's input was consulted in partnership with the Baltimore City
19 Department of Recreation and Parks.

20 Now the park has green grass, trees, boulders, and a plaza for community
21 gatherings, and it has improved the image of the community as a whole. The
22 Edgewood Community believes that Harlem Denison Park should be renamed to
23 reflect the park's revitalization. The park is presently named for the intersection
24 of 2 streets adjacent to its boundaries, and the name does not reflect the character
25 of the community.

26 One notable resident and Baltimore icon lived in the community. That person
27 was William Donald Schaefer, former mayor and 58th Governor of Maryland. He
28 grew up at 620 Edgewood Street and lived there with his mother during most of
29 his time as mayor, where he was a good neighbor to others in the community. The

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

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1 revitalization of the park is something of which he would have been pleased. The
2 Edgewood Community believes that the park should be renamed to honor him and
3 his legacy.

4 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
5 name of Harlem Denison Park, located at 3421 Harlem Avenue (Block 2484, Lot 081), is
6 changed to William Donald Schaefer Park.

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