

CITY OF BALTIMORE

CATHERINE E. PUGH, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

REGINALD MOORE, Director
DR. RALPH W. E. JONES, JR. BUILDING
3001 East Drive - Druid Hill Park
Baltimore, Maryland 21217
410-396-7900

DATE: Thursday, January 10, 2019

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council

FROM: Baltimore City Recreation & Parks

POSITION: Support

RE: City Council Bill 18-0310 Renaming the Oliver Pool to the John D. Murdock Pool

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 18-0310.

John Murdock served for over 50 years in the Baltimore City Community Action Partnership engaging the children on the mechanics of basketball and life. Baltimore City Council President Bernard C. "Jack" Young has been quoted as saying, "Coach John Murdock was a father figure to many of us throughout the city. He always checked on us at school, in the neighborhood and at home. Thousands of young men were impacted by his commitment to change in the lives of youth. I will be forever grateful for all he's done for me."

John Murdock was born and raised in east Baltimore. He graduated from the University of Baltimore in 1978 with a Bachelor's degree in Recreational Administration. Murdock played for and coached the East Side Chargers football team. And though he never realized his goal to become a criminal lawyer, he took classes in law so he could help troubled youth.

Many people knew and loved John Murdock "Coach." He had deep ties to the community as a youth basketball coach and mentor, working with youth on their studies and academic aspirations. He coached basketball for over half a century and was a staple of the Oliver Recreation Center and Eastern CAP Center. Along with basketball, Murdock coached youth baseball, soccer and track.

Throughout Baltimore there are few places you can go without someone who can testify to the impact John Murdock has had on their lives. He has coached every great basketball player to come out of the city for the last several decades, and he has mentored many of its leaders.

Baltimore City Recreation & Parks overwhelmingly and enthusiastically supports City Council Bill 18-0310 renaming the Oliver Pool to the John D. Murdock Pool.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jenny Morgan at jenny.morgan@baltimorecity.gov or at 410-396-7900.

Respectfully,

Reginald Moore, *Director*
Baltimore City Recreation and Parks