

CITY OF BALTIMORE  
ORDINANCE **20.466**  
Council Bill 20-0628

Introduced by: Councilmember Costello

At the request of: Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore, Inc.

Address: c/o Laurie Schwartz, Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore, Inc., 650 South Exeter  
Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Telephone: 443-743-3307

Introduced and read first time: October 5, 2020

Assigned to: Judiciary Committee

Committee Report: Favorable

Council action: Adopted

Read second time: November 2, 2020

**AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING**

**City Property – Naming a Pavilion and a Nature Park in the Joseph H. Rash Playfield  
to be the BGE Pavilion and the BGE Nature Park**

FOR the purpose of naming a pavilion in the Joseph H. Rash Playfield (Block 890, Lot 006), to be located at the coordinates of 39.281483, - 76.610425, the BGE Pavilion; and naming a nature park in the Joseph H. Rash Playfield (Block 890, Lot 006), to be located at the coordinates of 39,281657, - 76,610659, the BGE Nature Park.

BY authority of

Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement

Section 20-2

Baltimore City Code

(Edition 2000)

**Recitals**

Rash Field is a 7.5-acre public park located at 301 Key Highway, along the south shore of the Inner Harbor. The park was opened in 1977, though in the decades since has largely sat vacant and underused. In partnership with Baltimore City Recreation and Parks and the Baltimore Development Corporation, Waterfront Partnership has worked with a team of city officials, community leaders, and local businesses to transform Rash Field into Rash Field Park.

Of the \$17 million Phase I project cost, \$9.5 million has been committed by the Mayor and City Council in the Capital Improvement Program (with an additional \$1 million in the FY 2021 CIP) and \$4.3 million from the State of Maryland. Waterfront Partnership has committed to raising the remainder – more than \$2 million – from private sources.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates matter added to the bill by amendment.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from existing law by amendment.



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1 Baltimore Gas and Electric Co (BGE) has offered to donate up to \$1 million  
2 toward park renovations. Such a charitable contribution will come from  
3 shareholders and will not be recovered from utility customers in electric and gas  
4 rates.

5 In recognition of its significant contribution and support for many community  
6 efforts, Waterfront Partnership proposes to name the Pavilion and Nature Park in  
7 honor of BGE. Without its funding, the park could not be built as planned.

8 The Inner Harbor is an incredible asset for Baltimore. The Rash Field Park  
9 project has been designed and is being built to serve primarily citywide residents,  
10 as well as tourists. The economic benefits are numerous. Over the construction  
11 period it is estimated there will be approximately 370 jobs on the site. Materials  
12 removed from the site have been donated to the nonprofit Second Chance  
13 organization, with proceeds dedicated to workforce training. The M/WBE  
14 construction subcontracts exceed the city's requirements. And when the Park  
15 opens, landscape maintenance and cleaning on the site will include ongoing  
16 workforce training.

17 Baltimore Gas and Electric Company was founded in 1816 and is the largest  
18 energy utility in Maryland. BGE has a long-standing reputation for serving the  
19 Baltimore community. Each year, BGE employees donate more than 25,000  
20 volunteer hours and contribute more than \$5 million to worthy nonprofits  
21 throughout the Baltimore region. In response to the coronavirus outbreak, BGE  
22 has donated an additional \$300,000 to the United Way of Central Maryland,  
23 Maryland Food Bank and Baltimore Community Foundation to respond to  
24 community need. For these reasons and more, the Maryland Chamber of  
25 Commerce and the Baltimore Business Journal awarded BGE the Maryland  
26 Corporate Philanthropy Award in the large corporation category.

27 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That a  
28 pavilion in the Joseph H. Rash Playfield (Block 890, Lot 006), to be located at the coordinates of  
29 39.281483, - 76.610425, is named the BGE Pavilion, and that a nature park in the Joseph H.  
30 Rash Playfield (Block 890, Lot 006), to be located at the coordinates of 39,281657, - 76,610659,  
31 is named the BGE Nature Park.

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



**Council Bill 20-0628**

Certified as duly passed this 16 day of November, 2020

Brandon M. Scott

President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to His Honor, the Mayor,

this 16 day of November, 2020

Katarina B. Austin

Chief Clerk

Approved this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of Dec., 2020

Bob J. Grogan

Mayor, Baltimore City

Approved for Form and Legal Sufficiency  
This 2nd day of December, 2020.

Elena DiPietro

Chief Solicitor