



## Legislation Text

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INTRODUCTORY\*

CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL

Introduced by: Councilmember Welch  
At the request of: Leon Day Foundation, Inc.  
Address: c/o Richard K. Harris, 8663 Hayshed Lane, Columbia, Maryland 21045  
Telephone: 443-825-8893

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ORDINANCE concerning  
**City Property - Naming the Building in Leon Day Park to be the Betty Hawkins Community Center**

FOR the purpose of naming the building in Leon Day Park, the Park being located south of Franklintown Road and east of the Gwynns Falls stream and the Western Maryland Railroad, to be the Betty Hawkins Community Center.

BY authority of  
Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement  
Section 20-2  
Baltimore City Code  
(Edition 2000)

Recitals

Betty Hawkins, a longtime resident of the Rosemont Community, passed away in July 2012, at the age of 84. She was one of the people instrumental in the renovation and renaming of Bloomingdale Oval Park to Leon Day Park in honor of Leon Day, the Hall of Fame Negro League baseball player who resided in the Rosemont community.

The Leon Day Park was important in her life. In addition to being one of the founders who established the Leon Day Foundation and who served as treasurer of the Foundation for ten years, she secured Park permits each year for the Leon Day Family Festival and also represented the Foundation in its Leon Day Park partnership with the Department of Recreation and Parks on its cleanup and maintenance program. She, along with several of her neighbors, was diligent in seeing that the Leon Day Park restrooms were cleaned and the trash picked up and placed in containers.

Betty Hawkins also participated in a number of other community organizations, including the Friends of Gwynns Falls Trails, Alliance of Rosemont Community Organization, and Baltimore Health Disparities. Although having no children of her own, she was like a grandmother to many children in her neighborhood and held every year a "Back-to-School" give-away of school

supplies for neighborhood children, until she became ill. She also held fundraisers for the Leon Day Foundation to support its youth sports program and was one of the persons instrumental in securing a grant from the Baltimore Ravens for the improvement of Leon Day Park.

It would be fitting to name the building in Leon Day Park the Betty Hawkins Community Center, in honor of a person who contributed so much to her community and to Leon Day Park.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the building located in Leon Day Park, the Park being located south of Franklinton Road and east of the Gwynns Falls stream and the Western Maryland Railroad, is named the Betty Hawkins Community Center.

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

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