



# City of Baltimore

City Council  
City Hall, Room 408  
100 North Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 08-0069, **Version:** 0

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INTRODUCTORY\*  
CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL

Introduced by: Councilmember Conaway

At the request of: Louis Fields c/o Baltimore Black Heritage Trails, African American Tourism Council of Maryland, Inc.

Address: P.O. Box 3014, Baltimore, Maryland 21229

Telephone: 410-783-5469

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ORDINANCE concerning

**City Streets - Renaming - North Avenue to Harriet Ross Tubman Boulevard and Caroline Street to Frederick Douglass Avenue**

FOR the purpose of changing the name of North Avenue to Harriet Ross Tubman Boulevard and the name of Caroline Street to Frederick Douglass Avenue.

BY authority of

Article 26 - Surveys, Streets, and Highways

Section 7-3

Baltimore City Code

(Edition 2000)

### Recitals

Both Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman have strong connections to the City of Baltimore.

Frederick Douglass lived in Fells Point as a slave youth from 1826 to 1838. On Monday, September 3, 1838, he escaped by means of the Underground Railroad from slavery to freedom in the north.

In 1850, one year after her escape from the Eastern Shore, Harriet Tubman came to Baltimore and made her first Underground Railroad rescue, leading her niece, Kessiah Jolley, north to freedom.

Why North Avenue and Caroline Street?

North Avenue was once subjected to the restrictive housing covenants laws enacted by the City of Baltimore (e.g., Ordinance 10-510) and was an invisible, but very real, border for segregated housing within the City.

Caroline Street is the location where Douglass lived, played, walked, learned to read and write, and planned his escape from American slavery.

The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum now lies at the juncture of North Avenue and Caroline Street. And the new Frederick Douglass - Isaac Myers Maritime Museum can be found where Caroline Street meets Thames Street, in Fells Point.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That:

(a) the name of North Avenue, between Edgewood Street on the west and Milton Street on the east, is changed to Harriet Ross Tubman Boulevard; and

(b) the name of Caroline Street, between North Avenue on the north and the intersection of Thames and Block Streets on the south, is changed to Frederick Douglass Avenue.

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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