



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 20-0549 **Version:** 0 **Name:** City Property - Renaming the Columbus Obelisk Monument to the Police Violence Victims Monument

Type: Ordinance **Status:** Before the Mayor

File created: 6/22/2020 **In control:** Mayor

On agenda: **Final action:**

Enactment date: **Enactment #:**

Title: City Property - Renaming the Columbus Obelisk Monument to the Police Violence Victims Monument For the purpose of changing the name of the Columbus Obelisk Monument, located in Heinz Park (Block 4197 Lot 002), to the Police Violence Victims Monument.

Sponsors: Ryan Dorsey, Bill Henry, President Brandon M. Scott, Leon F. Pinkett, III, Kristerfer Burnett, Shannon Sneed

Indexes: City Property - Renaming

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. 20-0549~1st Reader, 2. DGS 20-0549, 3. Law 20-0549, 4. Real Estate 20-0549, 5. Rec and Parks 20-0549, 6. 20-0549 DOT, 7. 2nd Reader Amendments 20-0549, 8. 20-0549~3rd Reader

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
10/5/2020	0	City Council	Approved and Sent to the Mayor	
9/21/2020	0	City Council	3rd Reader, for final passage	
9/21/2020	0	Housing and Urban Affairs Committee	Recommended Favorably with Amendment	
8/25/2020	0	Housing and Urban Affairs Committee	Recommended Favorably with Amendment	Pass
7/13/2020	0	Housing and Urban Affairs Committee	Scheduled for a Public Hearing	
6/25/2020	0	City Council President	Refer to Dept. of Recreation and Parks	
6/25/2020	0	City Council President	Refer to Dept. of Real Estate	
6/25/2020	0	City Council President	Refer to City Solicitor	
6/25/2020	0	City Council President	Refer to Planning Commission	
6/25/2020	0	City Council President	Refer to Dept. of Transportation	
6/25/2020	0	City Council President	Refer to Dept. of General Services	
6/22/2020	0	City Council	Assigned	
6/22/2020	0	City Council	Introduced	

* **Warning:** This is an unofficial, introductory copy of the bill. The official copy considered by the City Council is the first reader copy.

Introductory*

**City of Baltimore
Council Bill**

Introduced by: Councilmember Dorsey

A Bill Entitled

An Ordinance concerning

City Property - Renaming the Columbus Obelisk Monument to the Police Violence Victims Monument

For the purpose of changing the name of the Columbus Obelisk Monument, located in Heinz Park (Block 4197 Lot 002), to the Police Violence Victims Monument.

By authority of

Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement

Section 20-2

Baltimore City Code
(Edition 2000)

Recitals

Undoing white supremacy requires us to reject historical narratives that serve as its underpinnings, which we know to be false. This includes the heroizing, mythologizing, and white washing of some of history's worst actors, from Columbus to the Confederacy, the continuation of which constitutes an act of propaganda.

Today, monuments still stand as manifestations of these lies, even while the same system of white supremacy continues its reign of physical and systemic violence against Black and Brown people. This violence takes many forms including pervasive and appalling police violence.

In 2020 we face yet another moment of reckoning with racism and white supremacy, which again has been sparked by an incident of police violence; five years after the killing of Freddie Gray; remembering the deaths of Korryn Gaines, Anton Black, Tyrone West, Dale Graham, and other Marylanders who were killed by police; acknowledging the difficult struggle faced by survivors of police violence like Keith Davis, Abdul Salaam, Jamar Kennedy; and in the aftermath of the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Rayshard Brooks, and so many others nationwide.

This moment has brought many new people to join the police abolition movement, and it has moved governments and citizens all across the country to take down their monuments. Rather than continue to allow monuments to stand to murderers, brutalizers, and oppressors, we should honor the memories of

victims who have lost their lives, and create space for those survivors who continue to persevere.

And so a beacon will stand in tribute to those who are victims of police violence and brutality, and their families and friends who bear the weight of trauma, signifying for all to see that their lives and stories matter, and that our work will be to change the system that wronged them.

Section 1. Be it ordained by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, That the name of the Columbus Obelisk Monument, located in Heinz Park (Block 4197 Lot 002), is changed to the Police Violence Victims Monument.

Section 2. And be it further ordained, That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day after the date it is enacted.