

FROM	NAME & TITLE	THOMAS J. STOSUR, DIRECTOR	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 8 TH FLOOR, 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL #17-0156/ CITY PROPERTY – NAMING THE SOUTHWESTERN “PLATEAU” OF WYMAN PARK DELL’S MAIN PARK AREA TO BE THE HARRIET TUBMAN GROVE AT WYMAN PARK DELL		

DATE: December 26, 2017

TO The Honorable President and
 Members of the City Council
 City Hall, Room 400
 100 North Holliday Street

At its regular meeting of December 21, 2017, the Planning Commission considered City Council Bill #17-0156, for the naming of the southwestern “plateau” of Wyman Park Dell’s main park area bounded roughly by the wooded steep slope to the east, the 29th Street spur road and park entrance to the south, the southernmost entrance stairs off of Art Museum Drive to the north, and Howard Street/Art Museum Drive to the west, to be the Harriet Tubman Grove at Wyman Park Dell.

In its consideration of this Bill, the Planning Commission reviewed the attached staff report which recommended approval of City Council Bill #17-0156 and adopted the following resolution, eight members being present (eight in favor):

RESOLVED, That the Planning Commission concurs with the recommendation of its Departmental staff, and recommends that City Council Bill #17-0156 be passed by the City Council.

Attachment

TJS/WA

- cc: Mr. Pete Hammen, Chief Operating Officer
 Mr. Jim Smith, Chief of Strategic Alliances
 Ms. Karen Stokes, Mayor’s Office
 Mr. Kyron Banks, Mayor’s Office
 Mr. Colin Tarbert, Mayor’s Office
 The Honorable Edward Reisinger, Council Rep. to Planning Commission
 Mr. David Tanner, BMZA
 Mr. Geoffrey Veale, Zoning Administration
 Ms. Sharon Daboin, DHCD
 Mr. Patrick Fleming, DOT
 Ms. Elena DiPietro, Law Dept.
 Ms. Natawna Austin, Council Services
 Mr. Francis Burnszynski, PABC



Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
Mayor

PLANNING COMMISSION

Sean Davis, Chairman

STAFF REPORT



Thomas J. Stosur
Director

December 21, 2017

REQUEST: City Council Bill #17-0156/ City Property Naming the Southwestern "Plateau" of Wyman Park Dell's Main Park Area to be the Harriet Tubman Grove at Wyman Park Dell

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

STAFF: Ivor Quashie

PETITIONERS: Councilmember Mary Pat Clarke

OWNERS: Mayor and City Council

SITE/GENERAL AREA

Site Conditions: Wyman Park Dell is a 16-acre public park in Baltimore City. Located south of Johns Hopkins University and The Baltimore Museum of Art, it is surrounded by two neighborhoods: Charles Village to the east and south, and Remington to the west.

General Area: This property is in the southeastern portion of a predominantly residential area known as John Hopkins Homewood. It is comprised of multifamily and single family buildings and buildings that support the Homewood campus.

HISTORY

There are no previous Planning Commission actions regarding this site.

ANALYSIS

Dr. Marvin "Doc" Cheatham, president of the Matthew A. Henson Development Corporation held a press conference at the monument of Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson in the Wyman Park Dell days after the Charleston White Supremacist shooting at the AME Church in June 2015. He and other leaders called for removal of the statue of confederate generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson and replacement by a statue of Harriet Tubman. In December 2015 community members testified before the Mayor's Commission on Confederate Monuments and recommended a statue of Harriet Tubman as an alternative to the confederate statues. In August 2017, Mayor Catherine Pugh ordered the removal of the all of the confederate monuments in the city.

Art-Part'heid, a group of: 500 artists, art supporters, community organizers, business owners, activists and stakeholders, held five teach ins, called Monumental Moments: A Series of Imaginings, at locations across the City (including in 14th, 11th, 13th, 6th, and 7th

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The Friends of Wyman Park Dell have been working with the Baltimore City's Department of Recreation and Parks to plan short projects to improve this area of the park. This organization hopes that the dedication and renaming will be a catalyst to engage the community in planning longer-term improvements to this part of the park.

Notification: Planning staff notified the Charles Village Civic Association, Village Parents, Remington Neighborhood Alliance, and Charles Village Community Benefits District of this matter.



Thomas J. Stosur
Director