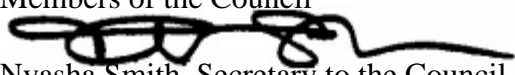


**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.**  
**Washington D.C. 20004**

Memorandum

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To : Members of the Council

From :   
Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council

Date : October 24, 2017

Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Monday, October 23, 2017. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Lois Mailou Jones Alley Designation Act of 2017", B22-0531

INTRODUCED BY: Councilmember Nadeau

The Chairman is referring this legislation to the Committee of the Whole.

Attachment

cc: General Counsel  
Budget Director  
Legislative Services

  
Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau

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A BILL

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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To officially designate the alley in Square 3049 that runs east and west between the 3100 blocks of Warder Street, N.W., and Park Place, N.W., and the 300 blocks of Kenyon Street, N.W., and Irving Street, N.W., in Ward 1, as “Lois Mailou Jones Alley” after the acclaimed artist who lived on a property near the alley.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Lois Mailou Jones Alley Designation Act of 2017”.

Sec. 2. Notwithstanding sections 403 and 421(a) of the Street and Alley Closing and Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201; D.C. Official Code §§ 9-204.03 and 9-204.21(a)) (“Procedures Act”), and pursuant to section 401 of the Procedures Act, the Council officially designates the alley in Square 3049, that runs east and west between the 3100 blocks of Warder Street, N.W., and Park Place, N.W., and the 300 blocks of Kenyon Street, N.W., and Irving Street, N.W., in Ward 1 as “Lois Mailou Jones Alley”.

Sec. 3. Transmittal.

The Council shall transmit a copy of this act, upon its effective date, to the Mayor, the Director of the District Department of Transportation, and the Office of the Surveyor.

Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

1           The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal  
2 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,  
3 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

4           Sec. 5. Effective date.

5           This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the  
6 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as  
7 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December  
8 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of  
9 Columbia Register.

Good morning friends and neighbors. I am regretful for my absence today but am excited to know that this hearing is finally taking place. Even though I am not there in person, I would still like an opportunity to describe my intentions behind this alley naming.

Although it may seem small to some, this alley name is an opportunity to honor the history of the neighborhood and also to recognize a largely underrepresented population in our nation.

The person who we've chosen to celebrate is the American artist, Lois Mailou Jones. Not only was she a Park View resident, but she was also a longtime professor at Howard University, a dedicated mentor, an avid activist, and most notably, a supremely gifted painter. Her work is widely recognized for its variety in subject matter and in style, evolving dramatically throughout her career.

Jones' work flourished during a time when racial prejudices and gender discrimination were historically strong in American culture. She won many important competitions, but often had to submit pieces through colleagues since African Americans were not typically allowed to apply. She found relief studying abroad in the more progressive city of Paris, but returned often to the United States to continue teaching and mentoring other emerging artists and designers.

The accomplishments of Lois Mailou Jones are greater than most people could ever hope to achieve in a lifetime, all while having to overcome the exceptionally challenging social obstacles of her time. Her work remains a substantial and remarkable contribution to the world of American art, gracing the permanent collections of the [Metropolitan Museum of Art](#), [Smithsonian American Art Museum](#), [Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden](#), [National Portrait Gallery](#), [Boston Museum of Fine Arts](#), among others.

My husband and I bought this lot hoping to build a home, but little did I know, the street naming would become a much more significant part of our lives than I could have imagined. I hope you will consider honoring the legacy of this great woman. Thank you all for your attendance today and for hearing my testimony.

Warmly  
Shelli Martinez

**From:** [Niki Davis](#)  
**To:** [Hawthorne, Sydney \(Council\)](#)  
**Subject:** Lois Mailou Jones info for Chairman Phil Mendelson Committee of The Whole: re: Bill 22-531 Lois Mailou Jones Alley Designation Act of 2017 from Niki Davis witness 2/26/18  
**Date:** Monday, March 12, 2018 8:41:06 PM

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Jones with Tritobia Hayes Benjamin at the opening reception of Jones's exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., November 1994  
Photograph by Donald S. Benjamin

Dear Ms Hawthorne (not sure what title you prefer, so I picked "Ms", so do please correct me if needed!),

Thank you for your service to our city and to our Chairman and for your particular kindness during our call last Wednesday! So sorry if this gets to you too late for Bill consideration, but I hope Mr Mendelson would appreciate the info anyway!

Please inform council that Mr Mendelson was right that the spelling of "Louis" printed to announce Public Hearing is incorrect...the CORRECT spelling of the artist' first name is "Lois"\*. I'm sure you and staff may have already informed him of these facts as well:

2) July 29 is declared Lois Jones Day in Washington, DC in 1984

3) Ms Jones was honored with Mayor's Third Annual Art Awards in Washington, DC in 1983

4) Ms Jones was presented with an Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Visual Arts by President Jimmy Carter at the White House in 1980.

5) Max Robinson (1939 - 1988) our Washington, DC reporter purchased 'Leigh Whipper' and arranges for 'Madame Lillian Evanti' to go to the National Portrait Gallery here in Washington, DC, and for 'Chou-Fleur et Citrouille, Paris' to go to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC.

Sooo many other facts, but these are most dear to our city. Ms Jones died in DC on June 9, 1998. Howard University presented exhibition, Remembering Lois.

Dr Tritobia Hayes Benjamin (Associate Dean of the Division of Fine Arts in the College of Arts and Sciences and Director of the Gallery of Art at Howard University here in DC) is considered to have produced the definitive text on Lois Mailou Jones. Dr Benjamin was a colleague, friend and confidant of the artist, so please utilize one of our best living resources!

Much respect  
Niki

Niki Davis  
323) 972-8868

(Text response is BEST!)

I struggle and need assistance with email AND a frozen, over stuffed iPhone 7 Voicemail system, so I ask for your patience and your tolerance in any effort to return contact with me! Thank you in advance for it!)

[nikid1031@gmail.com](mailto:nikid1031@gmail.com)

1029 Perry St NE  
#104  
Washington, DC 20017  
Willowbrook Condominium Community  
#UnitedNeighborsWard5

(AND my particular post office in Brookland is deeply underserved and underfunded, so my residence has very unreliable mail service, so the SAME patience, tolerance, and humor is needed if you mail me anything to my home address!)

Ha!

We will connect somehow no matter what.

"Be kinder than necessary...it is ALWAYS necessary!"

Sent from my iPhone

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
*District Department of Transportation*



Public Hearing on  
Bill 22-531, the “Louis Mailou Jones Alley Designation Act of 2017”

Testimony of  
Todd McIntyre

Chief of Staff  
Office of the Director  
District Department of Transportation

Before the

Committee of the Whole

Council of the District of Columbia

Monday, February 26, 2017  
11:30 a.m.  
Hearing Room 123  
John A. Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20004



Good morning Chairman Mendelson, members of the Council, staff, and District residents. My name is Todd McIntyre, and I am Chief of Staff at the District Department of Transportation, commonly referred to as DDOT. I am here today to present testimony on behalf of Mayor Muriel Bowser and DDOT Director Jeff Marootian regarding Bill 22-531, the “Louis Mailou Jones Alley Designation Act of 2017.”

The stated purpose of Bill 22-531 is to officially designate the alley that runs east and west between the 3100 blocks of Warder Street NW and Park Place NW, and the 300 blocks of Kenyon Street, NW and Irving Street NW in Ward 1 as *Louis Mailou Jones Alley*. As per the requirements of DC Act 21-489, Section 421(g), I have attached to this testimony a copy of the surveyor’s plat showing the public alley in square 3049.

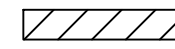
In fiscal terms, the cost of each installed sign for this designation is approximately \$170 (\$60 for sign fabrication and \$110 for sign installation). The installation will require three signs. DDOT is able to absorb the costs of these signs within its current budget and does not foresee any operational impact this designation would have on the District’s transportation network.

Therefore, the Administration has no objection to this designation, and DDOT stands ready to assist the Council and all other stakeholders with any ceremonial unveiling activities that may materialize as a result of this Bill being passed.



This concludes my testimony. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify before you today. I am available to answer any questions that you may have.

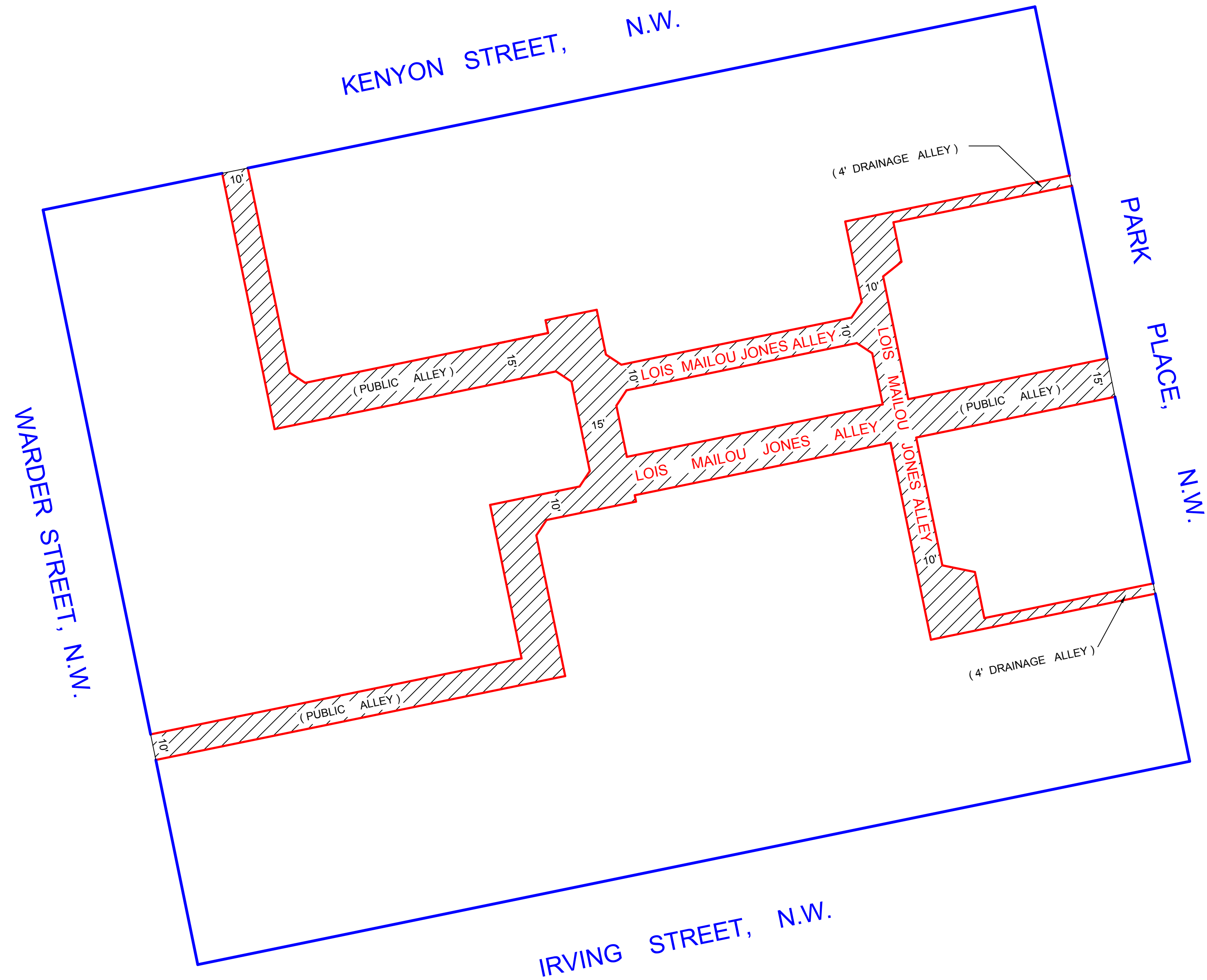
# NAMING OF A PUBLIC ALLEY SQUARE 3049

PURSUANT TO D.C. LAW \_\_\_\_\_ EFFECTIVE \_\_\_\_\_,  
THE ALLEY SHOWN THUS:  IS HEREBY DESIGNATED AS  
"LOIS MAILOU JONES ALLEY".

OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR, D.C.  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2017

I CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAT IS CORRECT AND IS RECORDED.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SURVEYOR, D.C.



SURVEYOR'S OFFICE, D.C.	
Made for: <u>DDOT</u>	
Drawn by: <u>A.S.</u> Checked by: _____	
Record and computations by: <u>B. MYERS</u>	
Recorded at: _____	
Recorded in Book _____ Page _____	SR-17-0000
Scale: 1 inch = 30 feet	File No. 17-11111