

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
COMMITTEE REPORT**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

DRAFT

TO: All Councilmembers

FROM: Chairman Phil Mendelson
Committee of the Whole

DATE: September 20, 2022

SUBJECT: Report on Bill 24-336, the “Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2022”

The Committee of the Whole, to which Bill 24-336, the “Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2022” was referred, reports favorably thereon with technical amendments and recommends approval by the Council.

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I. BACKGROUND AND NEED

On June 28, 2021, Bill 24-336, the “Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2022”¹ was introduced by Councilmember Charles Allen. This bill would symbolically designate the public alley system within Square 441, bounded by Wiltberger Street, N.W., T Street, N.W., T Street, N.W., Florida Avenue, N.W., 6th Street, N.W., and S Street, N.W., as Holzbeirlein Bakery Way, Joe and Mae Hurd All Sports club Way, and Wiltberger Club House Way. The location is in Ward 6. A symbolic naming is for ceremonial purposes and shall be in addition to and subordinate to any name that is an official name.

The Holzbeirlein Bakery operated a wholesale production facility at 1815-1827 Wiltberger Street NW between 1900 and 1953. The bakery was founded by Michael Holzbeirlein, a Bavarian immigrant who helped introduce mechanized and “sanitary” baking practices to the DC bakery industry. It employed a union workforce of around 70 employees and

¹ Originally introduced as the Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2021.

had 30 delivery trucks. The bakery locally produced breads and cakes under the trade names Fa-Mus and Bamby for sale in groceries across the District. In 2017, the DC Historic Preservation Review Board designated the Holzbeierlein Bakery complex a historic landmark in the DC Inventory of Historic Sites for the period of significance 1891-1930.²

The All Sports Club was a restaurant, bar, and jazz club founded in 1940 by Black broadcaster and radio pioneer Harold “Hal” Jackson. Mr. Jackson was a sportscaster for the Homestead Grays and Howard University. The All Sports Club was located at 1831 Wiltberger Street NW, across the stage door from the historic Howard Theater. The Club was sold to Joe and Mae Hurd around 1950 who continued its operation through the 1960s. The All Sports Club hosted jazz concerts and after-hours jam sessions that helped define the Black jazz scene that flourished in the Shaw/U Street area during the era of Black Broadway. The All Sports Club was a popular destination for Black athletes and celebrities to socialize and take in the jazz shows and was known as the “crossroads of the [B]lack sports world.”

The Wiltberger Club House was a social and athletic club for residents of Wiltberger and the surrounding community. The Club House fielded sports teams and sponsored picnics, cabarets, block parties, and dances. The dances were attended by members of social clubs from across the District and often featured the DJ skills of a young Chuck Brown. Club House members were a reliable presence in Wiltberger, usually assembled in a semi-circle of lawn chairs in the middle of Wiltberger Street, watching games on a television mounted near an open Club House window. The Wiltberger Club House represented a social hub for residents of the Wiltberger community and a consistent community through several decades of neighborhood change

Legal Background

The Street and Alley Closing and Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201; D.C. Official Code § 9-204.01 *et seq.*) (“Act”) establishes procedures for closing streets and alleys, opening new streets and alleys, naming public spaces, and other procedures related to streets and alleys. The Act authorizes the Council to symbolically or officially designate or change the name of any public space in the District of Columbia, including streets and alleys.³ In October 2016, the Act was amended to create a clear distinction between official and symbolic street and alley namings and to establish distinct processes and requirements for each type of naming.⁴

An “official name” refers to the legal designation of an alley or a street for mailing address and other purposes,⁵ whereas a “symbolic name” for a street or alley shall be in addition to and subordinate to any name that is an official name.⁶ An official name of an alley shall contain the suffix “Alley” or “Court.”⁷ A symbolic name of a street or alley shall contain the suffix “Way” or

² See January 26, 2017 meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board.

³ See D.C. Official Code § 9-204.01 *et seq.*

⁴ See D.C. Law 21-0161, effective from Oct. 8, 2016, Published in the *DC Register* Vol 63 and Page 12933.

⁵ D.C. Official Code § 9-201.01(5A).

⁶ D.C. Official Code § 9-204.03a(a).

⁷ D.C. Official Code § 9-204.03(c).

“Plaza.”⁸ As established by Bill 24-336, “Holzbeierlein Bakery Way” is a symbolic alley designation for the north-south alley between S Street, N.W. and Florida Avenue, N.W.; “Joe and Mae Hurd All Sports Club Way” is a symbolic alley designation for the east-west alley to the north opening on to Wiltberger Street, N.W.; and “Wiltberger Club House Way” is a symbolic alley designation for the east-west alley to the south opening on to Wiltberger Street, N.W.

The Act also establishes a notice requirement for symbolic designations. Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 9-204.23(b), the ANC in which the symbolic designation is located must be put on notice of the public hearing regarding the proposed naming. Regarding Bill 24-336, the ANC was notified of the legislation by the Committee on October 4, 2021.

After the symbolic street or alley designation legislation becomes law and all conditions required by the Council and the Act have been satisfied, the District Department of Transportation (“DDOT”) shall install signage indicating the symbolic name of the alley or street, or portion thereof. Such signage shall be uniform and distinct from signs for official names⁹

Conclusion

The area comprising the Wiltberger alleys have been redeveloped over the last several years into a mixed-use development. The local Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E wishes to recognize many of the businesses, community organizations, and residents that have contributed to the history and culture of the area. Each of the above entities represent a distinct period and facet of the neighborhood’s story. Thus, the Committee of the Whole recommends Council approval of Bill 24-336, the “Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2022.”

II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

June 28, 2021	Bill 24-336, the “Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2022” is introduced by Councilmember Allen.
July 13, 2021	Bill 24-336 is officially read at the regularly meeting of the Committee of the Whole and the referral to the Committee of the Whole is complete
July 16, 2021	Notice of Intent to Act on Bill 24-336 is published in the <i>DC Register</i> .
September 17, 2021	Notice of a public hearing on Bill 24-336 is published in the <i>DC Register</i> .
November 3, 2021	The Committee of the Whole holds a hearing on Bill 24-336.
September 20, 2022	The Committee of the Whole marks up Bill 24-336.

⁸ D.C. Official Code § 9-204.03a(c).

⁹ D.C. Official Code § 9-204.24(d).

III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Dan Emerine, Manager, Policy and Legislative Affairs, District Department of Transportation, testified on behalf of the Executive that it had “no objection” to the symbolic street namings in Bill 24-336. DDOT testified at the hearing that the cost of the signage contemplated in the bill is \$1,315. His testimony is attached.

IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

On November 2, 2021, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6E sent a letter to Chairman Mendelson on behalf of the Commission stating that ANC 6E voted unanimously to support the Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2021 and requested a favorable determination on this bill from the DC Council Committee of the Whole. The letter is attached.

V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee of the Whole held a public hearing on Bill 24-336 on Wednesday, November 3, 2021. The testimony is summarized below. Copies of the written testimony are attached to this report.

John Shaw, Public Witness, testified in support of the proposed designations. He spoke of the changes to Wiltberger Street and the need to recognize the history, and to provide additional wayfinding for visitors.

Barrington Scott II, Public Witness, testified in support of the proposed designation. He spoke of his great grandmother and great grandfather, Joe and Mae Hurd.

Alexander Padro, Executive Director, Shaw Main Street, Inc., testified in support of the designations on behalf of his Board. He spoke of efforts to ceremonially name other are local streets, including Cecelia’s Way. He emphasized the importance of preserving history in the modern era of redevelopment.

Dan Emerine, Manager, Policy and Legislative Affairs, District Department of Transportation, testified on behalf of the Executive that it had “no objection” to the designation.

In addition, the Committee received written comments in support of Bill 24-336 which are attached to this report. The Committee received no testimony or comments in opposition to Bill 24-336.

VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

Bill 24-336 has no impact on existing law. D.C. Official Code § 9-204.01¹⁰ authorizes the Council to name any public space. D.C. Official Code § 9-204.03(a) authorizes the Council to

¹⁰ Street and Alley Closing and Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201).

designate a symbolic name for an alley “that shall be in addition to and subordinate to any name that is an official name.”¹¹ Bill 24-336 symbolically designates the public alley system within Square 441, bounded by Wiltberger Street, N.W., T Street, N.W., T Street, N.W., Florida Avenue, N.W., 6th Street, N.W., and S Street, N.W., as Holzbeirlein Bakery Way, Joe and Mae Hurd All Sports club Way, and Wiltberger Club House Way. Additionally, “a symbolic name of a street or alley shall contain only the suffix Way or Plaza,” such as proposed by Bill 24-336.¹² Lastly, the Act provides that, with limited exception, no public space shall be named in honor of any living person or in honor of any person who has been deceased less than two years.¹³

VII. FISCAL IMPACT

According to the Fiscal Impact Statement of the Chief Financial Officer, funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2022 through fiscal year 2025 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. Because the cost to the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is estimated at \$1,315 (\$65 per sign for fabrication and \$125 for installation), the cost of Bill 24-336 can be absorbed.

VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

<u>Section 1</u>	States the short title of Bill 24-336.
<u>Section 2</u>	Symbolically designates the public alley system within Square 441, bounded by Wiltberger Street, N.W., T Street, N.W., T Street, N.W., Florida Avenue, N.W., 6th Street, N.W., and S Street, N.W., as Holzbeirlein Bakery Way, Joe and Mae Hurd All Sports club Way, and Wiltberger Club House Way.
<u>Section 3</u>	Adopts the Fiscal Impact Statement.
<u>Section 4</u>	Establishes the effective date by stating the standard 30-day congressional review language.

IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

¹¹ D.C. Code § 9-204.03(a).

¹² D.C. Code § 9-204.03(c).

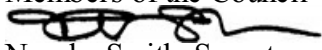
¹³ See D.C. Code § 9-204.05.

X. ATTACHMENTS

1. Bill 24-336 as introduced.
2. Written Testimony and ANC 6E letter.
3. Map of Proposed Designation.
4. Fiscal Impact Statement for Bill 24-336.
5. Legal Sufficiency Determination for Bill 24-336.
6. Committee Print for Bill 24-336.

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

Memorandum

To : Members of the Council

From : Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council
Date : Wednesday, July 7, 2021
Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Monday, June 28, 2021. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2021", B24-0336

INTRODUCED BY: Councilmember Allen

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

Attachment
cc: General Counsel
Budget Director
Legislative Services


Councilmember Charles Allen

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To symbolically designate the public alley system within Square 441, bounded by Wiltberger Street, N.W., T Street, N.W., Florida Avenue, N.W., 6th Street, N.W., and S Street, N.W. in Ward 6, as Holzbeierlein Bakery Way, Joe and Mae Hurd All Sports Club Way, and Wiltberger Club House Way.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2021”.

Sec. 2. Pursuant to sections 401, 403a, and 423 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 §§ 9-204.01, 9-204.03a, and 9-204.23), the Council symbolically designates the public alley system within Square 441, which is bounded by Wiltberger Street, N.W., T Street, N.W., Florida Avenue, N.W., 6th Street, N.W., and S Street, N.W. in Ward 6, as follows:

(1) The portion of the alley system oriented north and south between S Street, N.W, and Florida Avenue, N.W., is designated as Holzbeierlein Bakery Way;

(2) The northernmost portion of the alley system oriented east and west, opening on to Wiltberger Street, N.W., is designated as Joe and Mae Hurd All Sports Club Way; and

(3) The southernmost portion of the alley system oriented east and west, opening on to Wiltberger Street, N.W., is designated as Wiltberger Club House Way.

37 Sec. 3. Transmittal.

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

40 Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

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

44 Sec. 5. Effective date.

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

Committee of the Whole (Council)

Subject: FW: Testimony: BILL 24-336; Symbolically designate public alley system within Sq 441; Nov 3, 2021

From: John Shaw [REDACTED]

Date: Fri, Oct 29, 2021, 8:53 AM

Subject: Testimony: BILL 24-336; Symbolically designate public alley system within Sq 441; Nov 3, 2021

To: <cow@dccpuncil.us>

When I moved to Wiltberger Street in 2005, there were only seven residences. I was the youngest owner and the most recent resident. Today, only 15 years later, I am the oldest of the owners and the longest resident of the vastly changed street. When we make these symbolic name designations of the three alleys, future DC residents will have a starting point toward understanding the neighborhood's rich history and contributions.

Also, with the great increase of residents, visitors, and businesses, it is important to name the alleys for clarity of mobilization.

When I moved here, the Wonderbread building, the Howard Theater and the four-plex on S Street were abandoned; now all are fully adapted and renovated. I understood the speed at which the community was changing, and worked with the neighbors and developers to preserve: 1) the corner of Cecilia's restaurant and bar (recently commemorated by a symbolic street name), 2) the Holzbeirlein Bakery building (now the Adora Building), and 3) the row house facades on the south side of S Street where Wiltberger "tees" into S Street. I truly believe in the "green", creative reuse of our architectural heritage.

But I knew that a community was much more than brick and cement. The neighborhood wanted to remember the businesses and institutions where community members worked, played, and lived. We wanted to commemorate three of these institutions, one from the second half of the 19th Century, one from the mid 20th Century, and one from the last half of the 20th into the 21st Centuries.

WILTBERGER CLUB HOUSE: I was witness to only the last of these three institutions. "In those days", there were only seven residences in all of Wiltberger. One of the seven tiny row houses was the Club House. On clement days, about 10 gentlemen would form a semi circle of chairs in the street, each allowing a sight line through the door of the row house to the big screen television in the living room. They would hold court, watch sports events, monitor any comings and goings of the neighborhood, and report to the residents a delivery or visit. My direct neighbor, Roland Swingon, was a club member, and I am still in touch with one of his daughters who has preserved a trove of material about the club. But the club closed, the building sold, members died or gravitated away, and now this people-institution, once commemorated in the Washington Post and City Paper, is remembered by only one Wiltberger resident - me. Carolyn Swingon and the neighbors wish to see the alley adjacent to the original seven rowhouses bare the symbolic name of the Wiltberger Club House.

THE JOE AND MAE HURD ALL SPORTS CLUB: In recent years, this business was remembered only by a new cement block addition to the Holzbeirlein Bakery building. A veterinary colleague of mine at USDA came for breakfast one morning some years back, and commented to me that when she was young, "back in the day", she had business on Wiltberger Street and the club was one of her landmarks. This sent me on a treasure hunt for surviving family members, and this is how I met Mr. Barry Scott, a direct descendant of the Hurds, and also related to the family of Cecilia's. His rich collection of photos, memorabilia, and oral history, greatly deepened my appreciation of the history of Wiltberger and its music and entertainment legacy. We committed to preserving the business' memory and impact by proposing to symbolically name the alley adjacent to the club's former corner after this wife and husband team.

The Holzbeirlein building in modern times was the home of countless hot dog carts which would make their way to street corners in the District, only to wind their way back home at night to go through the washers and replenish their stock. But it was in its heyday, a large breadbaking operation when horses still pulled the carts for the delivery. The stable openings are now visible across the rear of the modernized building, as the parking slots for the apartments above. DC HPRB has

10.30.2021

Greetings Distinguished Members of the Council,

I am Barrington Scott II, direct descendent, and great-great grandson of Joe & Harriette Mae Hurd, legendary owners of one of the Districts original “Black Broadway” establishments in the U Street Coordidor, the All Sports Club. The preservation of history especially progressive history is more important now than it has ever been. It is these stories of triumph, perseverance, and impact that provide the inspiration and motivation needed when it seems all odds are against the most vulnerable who need to believe that they can survive and thrive in the ever-changing environment around them.

Harriette Mae & Joe Hurd began their life’s journey together, as working class citizens with a spirit of entrepreneurship that they brought to life through the development of a space that promoted city culture, and brought joy to many through their spirits and hospitality when locals as well as the nation’s largest celebrities of that time would grace Washington DC, and that was the All Sports Club.

Joe Hurd was a chief of the District 5 Police Force, he walked the beat, and kept the streets safe, and it’s where he would be meet Harriette Mae, affectionately known as Mae Mae who worked at the area post office where she would later retire after 50 years of service. The two married and started their lives together. This visionary power couple, took their earnings, and sowed them back into the community through their business acquisition creating the All Sports Club. Set at the trap door of the Howard theatre, it is there where relationships were built, deals were made to further progress the culture and the business of the city, and stars felt welcomed and anxious to return to see their hosts at the All Sports Club.



The time was 1962, a cool evening on Wiltberger Street where community members gathered in their best dressed attire for an expected show with Ella Fitzgerald and Pearl Bailey. Wiltberger Street was live and popping! Patrons would jump in between Cecilia’s and the All Sports Club packing in the bars to create memories while enjoying food, music, and spirits.



My mother, may she rest in peace, grew up in the All Sports Club, as did her mother, but unlike their generation it is my generation that seems to have picked up the spark of entrepreneurship, that understands the necessity of business and community development to help the people of our communities remain uplifted during the hardest of times, creating jobs and creative outlets, for them to enjoy life when the going gets tough and to receive the encouragement so needed after a hard downtrodden day. My wife and I are following in the steps of Joe & Mae Hurd pouring into people and communities in the way they did, but honestly without their example, or the stories of their success and influence, there would be no reference to follow, or no connection to inspire the faith based moves we make to empower us to keep going. These are the stories young natives of DC, and visitors alike need to hear, see and explore to really have a sense of how sacred the space they occupy is, and to have a full understanding for the history, vision, culture and work the city was built upon. Having the knowledge of what once was will maintain the positive spirit and present an amazing example of how families, friends, and communities worked together to thrive and survive during one of the nation's capital's most turbulent times in history. Cousins with Cecilia who has also been named for her vintage contributions to the times, it is a distinct message to show how these businesses did not thrive in competition but in collaboration of community, serving together and creating a spirit of inclusivity within their reach. After Joe's passing due to medical condition, Mae Mae continued running the All Sports Club, as the gracious host for the city's finest, with her giving heart and sweet spirit, she offered her time and energy selflessly to support the hearts of those who came.



My great grandparents established a legacy, where generations that came behind them were unable to preserve any physical memorials of what they experienced growing up, besides the picture and stories of their memories they would share as I would listen to and absorb as a young child growing up in the single family detached home that Mae and Joe Hurd purchased on Webster Street, NW for \$54K in cash that they earned and saved up operating the All Sports Club. But right now, in this moment, this very timely legislation will make it possible for us to physically preserve a history and legacy that my 5 kids and their kids, and countless others in the city can walk by, and take note, of what once was, and how it influenced the development of what is and inspire the next iteration of what can be.

Thank You,

Barrington Scott II, Great Great Grandson of Harriette "Mae Mae" and Joe Hurd, Owners of the All Sports Club

documented the extent of the business' involvement in the housing of its employees throughout the City "square" and neighborhood beyond. The original building was deemed significantly important as a uniquely old industrial structure, and determined worthy of preservation in its entirety, including the internal structures. The bakery was a major employer in the community before the Progressive Era issued in other large modern bakeries in surrounding neighborhoods. As the renovated building did not preserve the name of the business along with the structure, the neighborhood requests that our original business be commemorated by an symbolic alley name running past the former horse stables.

Thank you for your attention to these requests.

John Shaw

█ Wiltberger Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

█
█

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
District Department of Transportation



Public Hearing on
Bill 24-11, the Alpha Phi Alpha Way Designation Act of 2021
Bill 24-22, the Jamal Khashoggi Way Designation Act of 2021
Bill 24-24, the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Way Designation Act of 2021
Bill 24-117, the Armstead Barnett Way Designation Act of 2021
Bill 24-145, the Navy Place, S.E. Redesignation Act of 2021
Bill 24-160, the Willie J. Hardy Memorial Bridge Designation Act of 2021
Bill 24-214, the Alice Washington Way Designation Act of 2021
Bill 24-233, Rebecca Coder Park Designation Act of 2021, and
Bill 24-336, the Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2021

Testimony of
Dan Emerine

Manager, Policy and Legislative Affairs Division
District Department of Transportation

Before the
Committee of the Whole

Council of the District of Columbia

Wednesday, November 3, 2021
10:30 a.m.

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 Dan Emerine, and I am the Manager of the Policy and Legislative Affairs Division 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 Everett Lott regarding nine bills, which are Bill 24-11, the “Alpha Phi Alpha Way Designation Act of 2021,” Bill 24-22, the “Jamal Khashoggi Way Designation Act of 2021,” Bill 24-24, the “Ruth Bader Ginsburg Way Designation Act of 2021,” Bill 24-117, the “Armstead Barnett Way Designation Act of 2021,” Bill 24-145, the “Navy Place, S.E. Redesignation Act of 2021,” Bill 24-160, the “Willie J. Hardy Memorial Bridge Designation Act of 2021,” Bill 24-214, the “Alice Washington Way Designation Act of 2021,” and Bill 24-336, the “Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2021.”

The stated purpose of Bill 24-11 is to symbolically designate First Street, N.W., between Bryant Street, N.W. and Michigan Avenue, N.W., in Ward 5 as *Alpha Phi Alpha Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the designated street. In fiscal terms, the cost of each installed sign for this designation is approximately \$190 (\$65 for sign fabrication and \$125 for sign installation). Sufficient signage requires five total signs, totaling \$950.

The stated purpose of Bill 24-22 is to symbolically designate New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., between Virginia Avenue, N.W. and F Street, N.W., in Ward 2, as *Jamal Khashoggi Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the designated street. Sufficient signage requires three total signs, totaling \$570.

The stated purpose of Bill 24-24 is to symbolically designate Virginia Avenue, N.W., between Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, N.W. and New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., in Ward 2, as *Ruth Bader Ginsburg Way*, and to allow a public space in the District to be named in honor of a justice of the Supreme Court of the United States who has been deceased for less than 2 years. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the designated street. Sufficient signage requires three total signs, totaling \$570.

The stated purpose of Bill 24-117 is to symbolically designate the 600 block of Division Avenue, N.E., in Ward 7, as *Armstead Barnett Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the designated street. Sufficient signage requires two total signs, totaling \$380.

The stated purpose of Bill 24-145 is to officially re-designate the street known as Ellen Wilson Place, S.E., in Ward 6, as *Navy Place S.E.* For visualization

purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of the plat of the designated street. Sufficient signage requires three total signs, totaling \$570.

The stated purpose of Bill 24-160 is to officially re-designate the bridge on Benning Road, N.E., located between 34th Street, N.E., and Minnesota Avenue, N.E., in Ward 7, as the *Willie J. Hardy Memorial Bridge*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of the plat highlighting the designated bridge. Sufficient signage requires two total signs, totaling \$380.

The stated purpose of Bill 24-214 is to symbolically designate the 2700 block of Sherman Avenue, N.W., in Ward 1, as *Alice Washington Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the designated street. Sufficient signage requires two total signs, totaling \$380.

The stated purpose of Bill 24-336 is to symbolically designate the public alley system within Square 441, bounded by Wiltberger Street, N.W., T Street, N.W., T Street, N.W., Florida Avenue, N.W., 6th Street, N.W., and S Street, N.W. in Ward 6, as *Holzbeirlein Bakery Way*, *Joe and Mae Hurd All Sports Club Way*, and *Wiltberger Club House Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the designated alleys. Sufficient signage requires six total signs and 5 posts, totaling \$1,315.

Sufficient signage requires 26 total signs and 5 posts, totaling \$5,115.

DDOT is able to absorb the costs of these signs within its current budget and does

not foresee any operational impact these designations would have on the District's transportation network.

Therefore, the Administration has no objection to these designations, and DDOT stands ready to assist the Council and all other stakeholders with any ceremonial unveiling activities that may materialize as a result of these Bills 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.

Committee of the Whole (Council)

From: ccarol Swing [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 31, 2021 9:04 PM
To: jaymalach1.js@gmail.com; ccarol Swing; Committee of the Whole (Council)
Subject: WILTBERGER ALLEY MEMORIAL

Dear Sir/Madam:

My name is Carolyn Swingon and I am submitting this memorandum in the name of my father, Roland Swingon, Sr., Bernard Miller, and the "Club House" of Wiltberger Street, NW, DC.

This group of elderly men were a collection of high school buds from Cardoza, Armstrong, Dunbar and members of the local YMCAs and Boys Clubs of their day. They played and starred on their football, baseball, and basketball teams. Some went on to colleges where they progressed to the NBA and NFL leagues. Others played on semi-pro teams and travelled up and down the east coast; while others were satisfied to stay and play their respective sports in the Metropolitan Area. Some members also became professionals in the federal, municipal, and private corporations in Metro-DC.

All that Jazz and Soul. Many performers from the Howard Theatre paid a visit to the Clubhouse. I remember my father telling me that Dinah Washington, Duke Ellington, Little Richard, and James Brown had sat in their presence and enjoyed their company and refreshments. Jazz was the official music of the house.

If you wanted to know the history and experiences of their times you would need only to come in and sit down to hear about the segregation and the sensation and disappointments of the society of the 50's and 60's. Some members even spoke about the days of Franklin Roosevelt and his "New Deal." There were many historians in this group.

This was a social club of giants who scheduled trips and barbecues, and a birthday party month, and give aways to the less fortunate and its members. Weekend cook outs were the favorite of many who would enjoy waiting for the next hot dog or hamburger hot off the grill. Children even came to get their share of the goodies. It was a place of remembering and memorials of the times of joy and pain of a people who stayed together from their teen years throughout their lean years; boys to men and then elderly men who loved each other and supported one another. There are too many stories to tell here but can an "alley" hold such treasures? A memorial to these men would be appreciated.



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 6E
PO Box 93020 Brentwood Station, Washington, DC 20090

November 2, 2021

Chairman Phil Mendelson
Chair, Committee of the Whole
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20004

RE: Resolution Supporting the Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2021 (B24-0336)

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

On November 2, 2021, at a duly noticed and regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E (“ANC 6E” or “Commission”) conducted virtually via videoconference and with a quorum of 6 out of 7 Commissioners and the public present, ANC 6E approved the following resolution by a vote of 6 for, 0 against, and 0 abstentions:

WHEREAS, Wiltberger Street NW runs for one block between T Street NW and S Street NW. Extending east from Wiltberger Street NW are two unnamed alleys that both terminate on a third unnamed alley that parallels Wiltberger Street NW between Florida Avenue NW and S Street NW. The east side of Wiltberger Street NW and the alley complex to the east of Wiltberger Street NW are located within the jurisdictional boundaries of ANC 6E in Single Member District 6E02;

WHEREAS, despite its small size, Wiltberger Street NW and the Wiltberger east alley network have a rich and varied history including being the center of DC’s wholesale bakery industry, a nightlife and jazz destination during the era of Black Broadway, and as a tight-knit residential community;

WHEREAS, among the many businesses, community organizations, and residents that have contributed to the history and culture of Wiltberger Street NW, ANC 6E wishes to recognize three entities, each representing a distinct period and facet of the Wiltberger story, for the purposes of symbolic designation for the Wiltberger East Alleys:

- Holzbeierlein Bakery (1900 - 1953)
- All Sports Club Way (1940 - 196?)
- Wiltberger Club House Way (1960s - 2000s)

WHEREAS, the Holzbeierlein Bakery operated a wholesale production facility at 1815-1827 Wiltberger Street NW between 1900 and 1953, employing a union workforce that included as



many of 70 employees and 30 delivery trucks, and producing breads and cakes under the trade names Fa-Mus and Bamby that were sold in groceries across the District. The Holzbeierlein Bakery was founded by Michael Holzbeierlein, a Bavarian immigrant who helped introduce mechanized and “sanitary” baking practices to the DC bakery industry during the Progressive Era. In 2017, the DC Historic Preservation Review Board designated the Holzbeierlein Bakery complex a historic landmark in the DC Inventory of Historic Sites for the period of significance 1891-1930;

WHEREAS, the All Sports Club was a restaurant, bar, and jazz club founded in 1940 by Black broadcaster and radio pioneer Harold “Hal” Jackson, sportscaster for the Homestead Grays and Howard University. All Sports Club was sold to Joe and Mae Hurd around 1950, who operated it through the 1950s and 1960s. Located at 1831 Wiltberger Street NW, across the stage door from the historic Howard Theater, the All Sports Club hosted jazz concerts and after-hours jam sessions that helped define the Black jazz scene that flourished in the Shaw/U Street area during the era of Black Broadway. Known as the “crossroads of the [B]lack sports world” the All Sports Club was a popular destination for Black athletes and celebrities to socialize and take in the jazz shows.¹

WHEREAS, the Wiltberger Club House was a social and athletic club for residents of Wiltberger and the surrounding community. The Club House was well-known for fielding sports teams and sponsoring picnics, cabarets, block parties, and dances. The Club House dances were attended by members of social clubs from across the District and often featured the DJ skills of a young Chuck Brown.² In their later days, Club House members were a reliable presence in Wiltberger, usually assembled in a semi-circle of lawn chairs in the middle of Wiltberger Street, watching the big game on a television mounted near an open Club House window. The Wiltberger Club House represented a social hub for residents of the Wiltberger community and a consistent community through several decades of neighborhood change.

WHEREAS, at its May 4, 2021, ANC 6E voted unanimously to support the symbolic designation of the Wiltberger East Alleys to support the following symbolic designations:

- Designate the eastern alley parallel to Wiltberger Street NW as Holzbeierlein Bakery Way;
- Designate the northern alley running east from Wiltberger Street NW as Joe and Mae Hurd All Sports Club Way; and
- Designate the southern alley running east from Wiltberger Street NW as Wiltberger Club House Way;

WHEREAS, upon recommendation of ANC 6E, Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen introduced the Wiltberger East Alley Designation Act of 2021 (B24-0336)

¹ Catteau, Daniel. “Forgotten Champions”. *The Washington Post*, 3 June 1990.

² Morris, Ayesha. “Members Only”. *Washington City Paper*, 3 August 2001.



THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 6E supports the Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2021 and requests a favorable determination on this bill from the DC Council Committee of the Whole;

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION,

Sincerely,

Rachelle Nigro

Rachelle Nigro,
Chair

CC: Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember

-Here's the Big New Loaf *-That Everybody's Asking for*

IT'S the pride of Holzbeierlein's Bakery — Washington's famous cake makers. **NEW** and **DIFFERENT** all the way through—*made* different and *baked* different! An appetizing flavor and wholesome goodness that you never tasted in bread before.

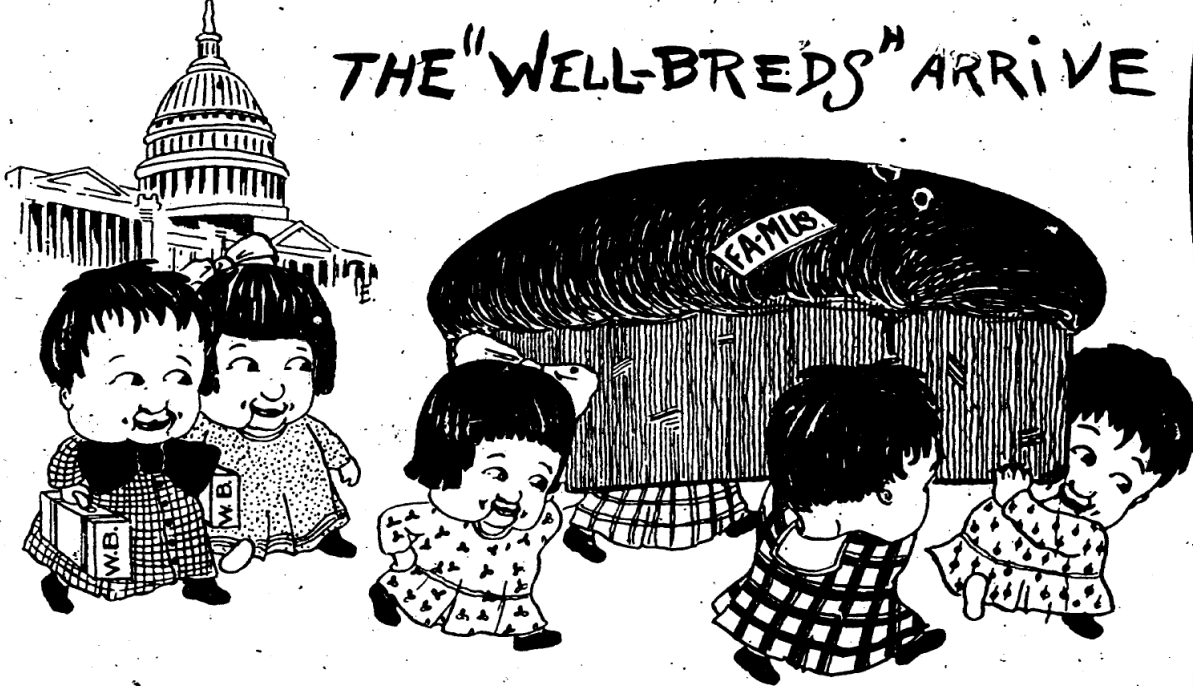
It took a long while for FA-MUS Bread to attain the peak of perfection which it now holds. Much experiment and expense was involved. But now that it has become the supremely delicious loaf that everyone acclaims it, our efforts to develop a *better* bread have been crowned with success.

Try this big, sunny-brown loaf at dinner today! It gives added enjoyment to every meal. And it's always **FRESH** and baked to a uniformly delicious flavor. In two sizes—long and short.

*Ask your grocer for FA-MUS Bread—but be persistent this time. **INSIST** on FA-MUS Bread.*

Figure 2: Advertisement for Holzbeierlein Bakery. Washington Evening Star. 25 October 1921.

ANCE



THE "WELL-BREDS" ARRIVE

TO TELL YOU ALL ABOUT FAMUS BREAD!

YES, and they're bringing you the biggest news you've heard since war was declared! It's a wonderful new bread—**FAMUS**—a great big, **NEW** loaf of bread that's different from any you've ever tasted before! And it's made by Holzbeierlein, whose delicious cakes have been delighting *your* palate—and your *grandfather's* palate—for more than 24 years.


Figure 2: Advertisement for Holzbeierlein Bakery, Washington Evening Star, 17 October 1921.

Host to Grads & Undergrads

HAROLD JACKSON
The voice you hear at Howard games
Announcer for
Homestead Grays
Invites You to
WINE & DINE
Before and After the Game
at
"The Meeting Place of Sports"

**JACKSON'S
All-Sports Club**

1831 Wiltberger Street, N. W.
Across from Howard Theatre Stage Door



PERFECT ATMOSPHERE
FOOD-SERVICE

Figure 2: Advertisement for Jackson's All-Sports Club,

ANC6E

The House That Jack Built



Figure 3: Photograph of Jackson's All Sports Club
From Jackson, Harold. 2001. The House that Jack Built: The Autobiography of a Successful American Dreamer Businessman and Entertainer. P.54. 2001. P.54



Figure 4: Undated Photograph of Mae Hurd behind the bar at the All Sports Club



Figure 5: Cover story on the Wiltberger Club House in the August 3-9, 2001 issue of Washington City Paper.



Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2021



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1 **DRAFT COMMITTEE PRINT**
2 **Committee of the Whole**
3 **September 20, 2022**

4
5 A BILL

6
7
8 24-336
9

10
11 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
12
13
14

15 To symbolically designate the public alley system within Square 441, bounded by Wiltberger
16 Street, N.W., T Street, N.W., Florida Avenue, N.W., 6th Street, N.W., and S Street, N.W.
17 as Holzbeierlein Bakery Way, Joe and Mae Hurd All Sports Club Way, and Wiltberger
18 Club House Way.
19

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
21 act may be cited as the “Wiltberger East Alleys Designation Act of 2022”.

22 Sec. 2. Pursuant to sections 401, 403a, and 423 of the Street and Alley Closing and
23 Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201; D.C. Official
24 Code §§ 9-204.01, 9-204.03a, and 9-204.23), the Council symbolically designates the public
25 alley system within Square 441, bounded by Wiltberger Street, N.W., T Street, N.W., Florida
26 Avenue, N.W., 6th Street, N.W., and S Street, N.W. as follows:

27 (1) The portion of the alley system oriented north and south between S Street,
28 N.W. and Florida Avenue, N.W., is designated as Holzbeierlein Bakery Way;

29 (2) The northernmost portion of the alley system oriented east and west, opening
30 on to Wiltberger Street, N.W., is designated as Joe and Mae Hurd All Sports Club Way; and

31 (3) The southernmost portion of the alley system oriented east and west, opening
32 on to Wiltberger Street, N.W., is designated as Wiltberger Club House Way.

33 Sec. 3. Transmittal.

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

36 Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

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

40 Sec. 5. Effective date.

41 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
42 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
43 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
44 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code §1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
45 Columbia Register.