

**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: March 7, 2023

SUBJECT: Report on Bill 25-23, the “Woodson Way Designation Act of 2023”

The Committee of the Whole, to which Bill 25-23, the “Woodson Way Designation Act of 2023” was referred, reports favorably thereon with technical amendments and recommends approval by the Council.

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I. BACKGROUND AND NEED

On January 11, 2023, Bill 25-23, the “Woodson Way Designation Act of 2023” was introduced by Councilmember Gray with seven co-introducers. This bill would symbolically designate the 500 Block of 55th Street, N.E. as Woodson Way. The location is in Ward 7. A symbolic naming is for ceremonial purposes and shall be in addition to and subordinate to any name that is an official name.

Howard Dilworth Woodson Senior High School (H.D. Woodson) is located at 540 55th Street, N.E. in Ward 7. The school is in the Deanwood neighborhood and is named in honor of local civic leader and engineer Howard Dilworth Woodson. Mr. Woodson along with other local residents began advocating for a public high school in far Northeast in the 1950s because neighborhood students would otherwise attend schools west of the Anacostia River like Spingarn or Eastern High Schools, or Anacostia High School which was much farther to the south. H.D. Woodson Senior High School opened in 1972, ten years after Mr. Woodson’s death.

In 2022, the alumni and community celebrated H.D. Woodson’s 50th anniversary. The school has a rich legacy of providing a quality education to learners across the District using an intentional focus on college and career readiness to prepare its scholars to be competitive in their post-secondary pursuits and maintains an environment where students feel loved, challenged, and prepared. The school is also well-known for its championship athletic programs.

“Woodson Way” is also fitting in that it is the motto of the school. The motto was first mentioned by H.D. Woodson’s first Principal, Napoleon Lewis, and was continued by its second Principal, James Curry. The idea behind the motto is that everything one does must be done with the highest level of effort, integrity and respect. The Woodson Way is a source of pride and tradition to students, teachers and administrators past and present.

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.¹ 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.²

An “official name” refers to the legal designation of an alley or a street for mailing address and other purposes,³ whereas a “symbolic name” for a street or alley shall be in addition to and subordinate to any name that is an official name.⁴ An official name of an alley shall contain the suffix “Alley” or “Court.”⁵ A symbolic name of a street or alley shall contain the suffix “Way” or “Plaza.”⁶ As established by Bill 25-23, “Woodson Way” is a symbolic designation of 500 Block of 55th Street, N.E.

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.

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 names⁷

¹ See D.C. Official Code § 9-204.01 *et seq.*

² See D.C. Law 21-0161, effective from Oct. 8, 2016, Published in the *DC Register* Vol 63 and Page 12933.

³ D.C. Official Code § 9-201.01(5A).

⁴ D.C. Official Code § 9-204.03a(a).

⁵ D.C. Official Code § 9-204.03(c).

⁶ D.C. Official Code § 9-204.03a(c).

⁷ D.C. Official Code § 9-204.24(d).

The Woodson Way is a way of life for those students, teachers, administrators who have contributed to the success of Howard D. Woodson High School. Thus, the Committee of the Whole recommends Council approval of Bill 25-23, the “Woodson Way Designation Act of 2023.”

II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

- October 3, 2022 Bill 24-1027, the “Woodson Way Designation Act of 2022” is introduced by Councilmember Gray.
- November 11, 2022 Notice of a public hearing on Bill 24-1027 is published in the *DC Register*.
- November 18, 2022 Revised Notice of a public hearing on Bill 24-1027 is published in the *DC Register*.
- December 12, 2022 The Committee of the Whole holds a hearing on Bill 24-1027.
- January 11, 2023 Bill 25-23, the “Woodson Way Designation Act of 2023” is introduced by Councilmember Nadeau.
- January 17, 2023 Bill 25-23 is officially read at a Regular Meeting of the Committee of the Whole and the referral to the Committee of the Whole is official.
- January 20, 2023 Notice of Intent to Act on Bill 25-23 is published in the *DC Register*.
- February 21, 2023 The Committee of the Whole marks up Bill 25-23.

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 25-23. DDOT testified at the hearing that the cost of the signage contemplated in the bill is \$380. His testimony is attached.

IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

The Committee received no testimony or comments from any Advisory Neighborhood Commission.

V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee of the Whole held a public hearing on several bills, including Bill 24-1032 on Monday, December 12, 2022. The testimony summarized below pertains to Bill 24-1032 which

was reintroduced as Bill 25-23. Pursuant to Council Rule 501(a)(2), a separate hearing shall not be required when a hearing on the same or a similar bill was held in the immediately preceding Council Period.

John Cotton, Public Witness, testified in support of the designation.

Aona Jefferson, Former Principal, H.D. Woodson Senior High School, testified in support of the designation.

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. The Committee received no testimony or comments in opposition to Bill 25-23.

VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

Bill 25-23 has no impact on existing law. D.C. Official Code § 9-204.01⁸ authorizes the Council to name any public space. D.C. Official Code § 9-204.03(a) authorizes the Council to designate a symbolic name for an alley “that shall be in addition to and subordinate to any name that is an official name.”⁹ Bill 25-23 symbolically designates 500 Block of 55th Street, N.E. as Woodson Way. Additionally, “a symbolic name of a street or alley shall contain only the suffix Way or Plaza,” such as proposed by Bill 25-23.¹⁰ 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.¹¹ Mr. Woodson passed away in 1962.

VII. FISCAL IMPACT

According to the February 23, 2023 Fiscal Impact Statement of the Chief Financial Officer, funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2026 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. Because the cost to the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is estimated at \$380 (\$65 per sign for fabrication and \$125 for installation), the cost of Bill 25-23 can be absorbed.

VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

<u>Section 1</u>	States the short title of Bill 25-23.
<u>Section 2</u>	Symbolically designates 500 Block of 55th Street, N.E. as Woodson Way.
<u>Section 3</u>	Adopts the Fiscal Impact Statement.

⁸ Street and Alley Closing and Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201).

⁹ D.C. Code § 9-204.03(a).

¹⁰ D.C. Code § 9-204.03(c).

¹¹ See D.C. Code § 9-204.05.

Section 4 Establishes the effective date by stating the standard 30-day congressional review language.

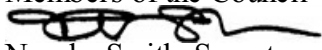
IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

X. ATTACHMENTS

1. Bill 25-23 as introduced.
2. Testimony for Bill 25-23.
3. Map of Proposed Designation.
4. Fiscal Impact Statement for Bill 25-23.
5. Legal Sufficiency Determination for Bill 25-23.
6. Committee Print for Bill 25-23.

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 : Monday, January 16, 2023
Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

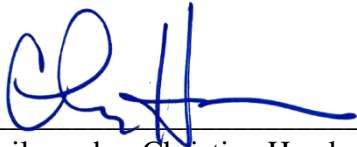
Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Wednesday, January 11, 2023. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Woodson Way Designation Act of 2023", B25-0023

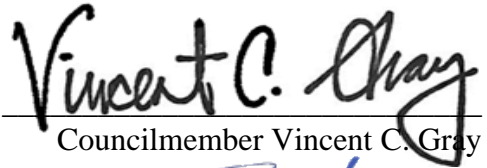
INTRODUCED BY: Councilmembers Gray, R. White, Bonds, Frumin, Henderson, McDuffie, Lewis George, and T. White

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

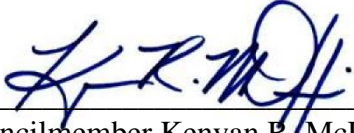
Attachment
cc: General Counsel
Budget Director
Legislative Services

1 

2 Councilmember Christina Henderson



Councilmember Vincent C. Gray

3 

4 Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie



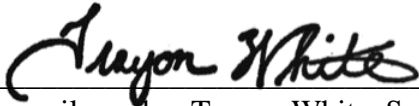
Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

5 

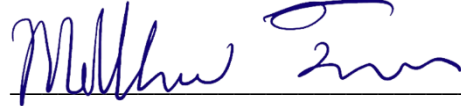
6 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George



Councilmember Anita D. Bonds

7 

8 Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.



Councilmember Matthew Frumin

9
10 A BILL

11 _____
12 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
13 _____

14 To symbolically designate the 500 block of 55th Street, N.E. as Woodson Way.

15
16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
17 act may be cited as the “Woodson Way Designation Act of 2023”.

18 Sec. 2. Pursuant to sections 401, 403a, and 423 of the Street and Alley Closing and
19 Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201; D.C. Official
20 Code §§ 9-204.01, 9-204.03a, and 9-204.23), the Council symbolically designates the 500 block
21 of 55th Street, N.E. as “Woodson Way”.

22 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

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

26 Sec. 4. Effective date.

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

December 12, 2022 District of Columbia City Council Street Designation Hearing to change the 500 Block of 55th Street NE, Washington, DC to “The Woodson Way”.

Good morning, Chairman and Members All of the DC City Council. My name is John F. Cotten and I am a life long Washingtonian and current resident of the District of Columbia who was educated from pre-school through college in the District of Columbia Public School System. I am a proud 1981 graduate of the Howard Dilworth Woodson Sr. High School and I’m currently a Executive Board Member of the H.D. Woodson Alumni Association as well as a Coach, Mentor and Volunteer.

I am before the DC Council to strongly recommend that the Council vote favorably in renaming the 500 block of 55th Street NE where the H.D. Woodson Sr. High School is located, The Woodson Way.

I ask that the Council do this to honor the academic, athletic and public service achievements of the thousands of students that have attended H.D. Woodson and went onto achieve a level of success that makes H.D. Woodson and the District of Columbia proud to call them one of our own. It also will be a sign of encouragement and inspiration for the current and future students of H.D. Woodson to strive for that same or a higher level of achievement and success.

I could use this time in which it would not be enough of to highlight the numerous achievements of past and present H.D. Woodson students and administrators, but it was more important to me to in this little time try to explain the significance and relevance of the Motto “The Woodson Way.”

The Motto “The Woodson Way” was first mentioned by our 1st Principal Napoleon Lewis and made a way of life by our 2nd Principal James Curry and the meaning was that everything you do must be done with the highest level of effort, integrity and respect. Till this day, along with our school mascot the African Warrior and our school colors of Red, Black and Green “The Woodson Way” brings an insurmountable amount of Pride and Tradition to the Students, Teachers and Administrators past and present. It will also be a symbol of inspiration and hope for all future Warriors.

So, as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary, what more of an honor and a privilege would it be to have our block designated as “The Woodson Way” as a token of appreciation from the city in which we have dedicated and given so much of ourselves too.

The Woodson Way is not just a mantra, but a way of life for those students, teachers, administrators who have contributed to the success of Howard D. Woodson.

Respectfully Submitted,

John F. Cotten, H.D. Woodson Class of 1981

Testimony of Aona Jefferson Support of Bill 24-1057 Woodson Way Designation Act of 2022

December 12, 2022

Good afternoon, Chairman Mendleson, and Members of the DC Council. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Aona Jefferson. It gives me great pleasure to be able to testify in support of Bill 24-1057 Woodson Way Designation Act of 2022. I was one of the Charter teachers to open Howard Dilworth Woodson Senior High School in August of 1972 and a former principal of Woodson. Howard D. Woodson Senior High School was named for a resident who was a civic leader and a civil engineer. Mr. Woodson was born April 26, 1876, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He graduated from the Western University of Pennsylvania in Pittsburgh in 1899, one of the first black engineering graduates from what is now the University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Woodson dedicated his time to ensuring that the far northeast section of Washington, D. C. would become an area of growth offering a better life for its residents. In fact, he is credited with most of the civic improvements in the Deanwood area from 1913 to 1962.

Urging community involvement through citizen associations, he advanced programs that would better the community, by organizing the inter-racial Business and Professional Men's Association and serving as delegate to the Federation of Civic Associations and to the Far Northeast Council. He founded the Northeast Boundary Civic Association and served as its first president. Mr. Woodson was successful in making significant improvements in this overlooked section of the city, by helping to organize schools, flood relief systems, single family zoning, park areas, streetlights, public transportation, and employment opportunities.

He sponsored a movement to build the East Capitol Street Bridge, the widening and the surfacing of Benning Road, the Deane Avenue and Grant Street project, and a four-lane highway from Kenilworth Avenue east to the District line. Mr. Woodson was also instrumental in securing additions to the then four-room Burrville Elementary school and was singularly instrumental in securing the location for Kelley Miller Junior High School. Both my deceased mother and my 92-year-old aunt attended Burrville Elementary School.

It was only fitting that the citizens of the far northeast area dedicated their new, modern Senior High School to his memory and to the perpetuation of his civic

ideals. The new school opened in 1972 at 55th and Eads Streets NE and was named Howard Dilworth Woodson Senior High School. It was the first high-rise high school in the country. It consisted of a seven-floor tower, a greenhouse on the roof, elevators, and escalators. Initially, the building's size and shape ran into obstacles with the planning boards. However, H.D. Woodson's son, Granville Woodson, was the chief of the DCPS buildings and grounds department, argued successfully for the board's approval. A student contest to create a slogan for the building resulted in the nickname "**The Tower of Power**".

HD Woodson High School was a fulfillment of the dream of the citizens of the Far-Northeast community. It was designed to be a comprehensive school by day and a community school by night. Projected goals of a twelve-month school year and a twelve-hour school day would permit students to combine their educational experiences with courses at other higher educational institutions and community service. The students were encouraged to take a combination of academic and career development courses to prepare them for the world of work.

Eventually, the original building was demolished in 2009 and replaced by a new three-story state-of-the-art facility in 2011. The second principal, James Curry, coined the phrase, "**The Woodson Way**" nearly 50 years ago. The Woodson Way was a code of conduct and dress for students. This phrase was developed to promote cohesiveness and a feeling of family throughout the building and to guide students as they interact with each other. It encompasses academic achievement and community involvement. The HD Woodson SHS Family, past and present, feel honored that the DC Council, especially Ward 7 Council Member, Vincent Gray, plan to rename the 500 Block of 55th Street, NE as "**WOODSON WAY**". **Therefore, we support the DC Council Bill 24-1057 Woodson Way Designation Act of 2022.**

Submitted 12/10/2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald Jefferson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
District Department of Transportation



Public Hearing on

Bill 24-578, the “Dedication of a Portion of W Street, SE, S.O. 16-24322 Act of 2021”

PR 24-733, the “Removal of a Portion of 26th Street, N.E., from the Plan of the Permanent System of Highways of the District of Columbia Approval Resolution of 2022”

PR 24-994, the “Closing of a Portion of Moreland Street, N.W., and the Removal of the Associated Building Restriction Line, S.O. 21-05063, Approval Resolution of 2022”

PR 24-995, the “Closing of a Portion of a Public Alley in Square 4053, S.O. 22-00410, Approval Resolution of 2022”

Bill 24-1022, the “Reed Street Realignment Act of 2022”

Bill 24-1026, the “Closing of a Portion of Half Street, S.W., Adjacent to Square 660 Act of 2022”

Bill 24-1102, the “Howard East Towers Alley Closing and Street Dedication Act of 2022”

Bill 24-1103, the “Union Court Alley Closing and Public Safety Improvement Act of 2022”

Bill 24-892, the “Bishop Groover Way Designation Act of 2022”

Bill 24-1025, the “Allen Y. Lew Place Designation Act of 2022”

Bill 24-1032, the “Benjamin Secundy, Sr. Way Designation Act of 2022”

Bill 24-1057, the “Woodson Way Designation Act of 2022”

Bill 24-1058, the “Davon T. McNeal, III Way Designation Act of 2022”

Bill 24-1061, the “Wooten Court Designation Act of 2022”

Bill 24-1062, the “Cassandra S. Pinkney Way Designation Act of 2022”

Bill 24-1087, the “Makiyah Wilson Way Designation Act of 2022”

Bill 24-1090, the “William Dorsey Swann Way Designation Act of 2022”



Bill 24-1093, the “Sam ‘The Man’ Burns Way Designation Act of 2022”
B24-1101, the “Xi Omega Way Designation Act of 2022”

Testimony of
Anna Chamberlin
Associate Director
Planning and Sustainability Division
District Department of Transportation

Before the
Committee of the Whole
Council of the District of Columbia

Monday, December 12, 2022
11:00 a.m.

Live via Zoom Video Conference Broadcast
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 Anna Chamberlin, Associate Director of the Planning and Sustainability 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 the following sixteen bills and three proposed resolutions:

- Bill 24-578, the “Dedication of a Portion of W Street, SE, S.O. 16-24322 Act of 2021”;
- Proposed Resolution 24-733, the “Removal of a Portion of 26th Street, N.E., from the Plan of the Permanent System of Highways of the District of Columbia Approval Resolution of 2022”;
- Proposed Resolution 24-994, the “Closing of a Portion of Moreland Street, N.W., and the Removal of the Associated Building Restriction Line, S.O. 21-05063, Approval Resolution of 2022”;
- Proposed Resolution 24-995, the “Closing of a Portion of a Public Alley in Square 4053, S.O. 22-00410, Approval Resolution of 2022”;
- Bill 24-1022, the “Reed Street Realignment Act of 2022”;
- Bill 24-1026, the “Closing of a Portion of Half Street, S.W., Adjacent to Square 660 Act of 2022”;

- Bill 24-1102, the “Howard East Towers Alley Closing and Street Dedication Act of 2022”;
- Bill 24-1103, the “Union Court Alley Closing and Public Safety Improvement Act of 2022”;
- Bill 24-892, the “Bishop Groover Way Designation Act of 2022”;
- Bill 24-1025, the “Allen Y. Lew Place Designation Act of 2022”;
- Bill 24-1032, the “Benjamin Secundy, Sr. Way Designation Act of 2022”;
- Bill 24-1057, the “Woodson Way Designation Act of 2022”;
- Bill 24-1058, the “Davon T. McNeal, III Way Designation Act of 2022”;
- Bill 24-1061, the “Wooten Court Designation Act of 2022”;
- Bill 24-1062, the “Cassandra S. Pinkney Way Designation Act of 2022”;
- Bill 24-1087, the “Makiyah Wilson Way Designation Act of 2022”;
- Bill 24-1090, the “William Dorsey Swann Way Designation Act of 2022”;
- Bill 24-1093, the “Sam ‘The Man’ Burns Way Designation Act of 2022; and
- Bill 24-1101, the “Xi Omega Way Designation Act of 2022”.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-578**, the “Dedication of a Portion of W Street, S.E., S.O. 16-24322 Act of 2021,” is to order the widening of a portion of W Street, S.E., between Railroad Avenue, S.E. to the northwest and Shannon Place, S.E. to the southeast, and to provide for the establishment of a non-exclusive easement to the District of Columbia for the surface rights to that portion of private

property located adjacent to W Street, S.E. in Square 5784. DDOT filed a report with the Office of the Surveyor on December 27, 2018, related to S.O. No. 16-24322. DDOT has no objection to the public access easement identified in the proposed easement area under the condition that the Office of Surveyor update the official plat to remove the term “surface” from both the title and block of text in the upper left corner. The easement should be non-restrictive rather than a surface easement.

The stated purpose of **Proposed Resolution 24-733**, the “Removal of a Portion of 26th Street, N.E., from the Plan of the Permanent System of Highways of the District of Columbia Approval Resolution of 2022,” is to approve the removal of a 45-foot wide portion of 26th Street, N.E., along the east lot line of Lot 812 in Square 4408 and Lot 805 in Square 4396 from the Plan of the Permanent System of Highways of the District of Columbia. DDOT filed a report with the Office of the Surveyor on April 19, 2021, related to S.O. No. 21-02601. DDOT has no objection to the elimination of the segment of Rand Place, N.E. from the DC Highway Plan as identified. This segment does not have a future transportation need.

The stated purpose of **Proposed Resolution 24-994**, the “Closing of a Portion of Moreland Street, N.W., and the Removal of the Associated Building Restriction Line, S.O. 21-05063, Approval Resolution of 2022,” is to approve the

closing of a portion of Moreland Street, N.W., and the removal of the associated building restriction line, as shown on the Surveyor's plat in S.O, 21-05063, and to vest title in the closed portion of Moreland Street, N.W., in the adjacent landowners. DDOT filed a report with the Office of the Surveyor on October 7, 2021, related to S.O. No. 21-05063. DDOT has no objection to the proposed closure of unbuilt Moreland Street, N.W. and removal of the Building Restriction Line (BRL) on Square 2307, Lot 31. DDOT requests that the BRL removal only occurs in conjunction with right-of-way closure. If the closure is not approved by Council, the BRL should remain in effect to allow for future sidewalks.

The stated purpose of **Proposed Resolution 24-995**, the "Closing of a Portion of a Public Alley in Square 4053, S.O. 22-00410, Approval Resolution of 2022," is to approve the closure of a portion of a public alley in Square 4053 in Northeast Washington, D.C., in Ward 5, as shown on the Surveyor's plat filed under S.O. 22-00410. DDOT filed a report with the Office of the Surveyor on January 7, 2022, related to S.O. No. 22-00410. DDOT has no objection to the proposed closure of the 10-foot strip of alleyway behind Lots 16 and 17 in Square 4053, as proposed. The proposed closure will have no impact on the overall transportation network or remaining alley network.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1022**, the "Reed Street Realignment Act of 2022" is to order the closing of portions of an existing public alley system in

Squares 3841 and 3846; to order the closing of a 10-foot wide portion along the south side of Franklin Street, N.E., between Reed Street, N.E. and 10th Street, N.E., and to accept the dedication of property in Squares 3841 and 3846 along the west and east sides of Reed Street, N.E., between Channing Place, N.E. and Franklin Street, N.E., for public street purposes. DDOT filed a report with the Office of the Surveyor on December 1, 2022, related to S.O. No. 22-01115. The agency has no objection as long as the following conditions are satisfied:

- The Applicant must enter into a Horizontal Public Use Agreement (HPUA) with DDOT and record it with the Recorder of Deeds to provide:
 - the forgoing conditions have been satisfied; and
 - that the public space improvements in the public right-of-way and subject to a Transportation Online Permitting System (TOPS) permit have been constructed to DDOT standards and specifications; and
 - that all statutory warranties have been provided; and
 - DDOT has agreed to accept the public space improvements.
- The Applicant must reach an agreement with the Urban Forestry Division's (UFD) Ward Arborist regarding the disposition of the large tree at the western fence line of 900 Evarts Street, N.E. and, specifically, whether the tree should be removed;

- Prior to issuance of the building permit for the first building within the Planned Unit Development (PUD), the Applicant shall prepare and submit a traffic signal warrant analysis for the intersection of Franklin Street and Reed Street, N.E. to DDOT’s Transportation Engineering and Safety Division (TESD) for review and approval;
 - If approved by TESSD, the Applicant shall complete an Memorandum of Agreement with DDOT and then design, fund, and install the traffic signal prior to issuance of the first Certificate of Occupancy for the first building within the PUD; and
- The Applicant must compensate DDOT in the amount of \$3,387.20 for the streetlights in the existing alley network.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1026**, the “Closing of a Portion of Half Street, S.W., Adjacent to Square 660 Act of 2022,” is to order the closing of a portion of Half Street, S.W., adjacent to Lot 12 in Square 660, in 19 Ward 6. DDOT filed a report with the Office of the Surveyor on February 8, 2022, related to S.O. No. 19-46610. DDOT has determined that there will no longer be a transportation need for the 889 SF of Half Street, S.W. right-of-way once DDOT construction vehicles have vacated the staging area. As such, DDOT has no objection to the right-of-way closure and elimination from the DC Highway Plan with the following conditions:

- The closure plat will not be recorded until the Office of Surveyor has been notified in writing by the DDOT Director that construction vehicles have permanently vacated the staging area;
- The Applicant will be responsible for all costs to remove or relocate the Pepco utility vault from the portion of right-of-way to be closed; and
- The elimination from the DC Highway Plan will apply only to the 889 square foot segment to be closed, not the entirety of Half Street, S.W. or any other adjacent street.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1102**, the “Howard East Towers Alley Closing and Street Dedication Act of 2022,” is to order the closing of a portion of an alley in Square 2873 abutting Lots 1106 and 1112 in Ward 1, to establish a 25-foot wide building restriction line on the closed alley area, and to dedicate a portion of Lot 1112 for public street purposes. DDOT filed an initial report with the Office of the Surveyor on September 22, 2022, related to S.O. No. 22-03181. While DDOT objected to the dedication and alley closure as then-proposed, DDOT filed a supplemental report on December 1, 2022, indicating that it was supportive of the now-proposed closures and dedication under the condition that:

- The Applicant coordinates with the Urban Forestry Division’s (UFD) Ward Arborist and submit a Special Tree Permit (STP) for the removal of the Bradford Pear tree;

- The Applicant establishes a Building Restriction Line (BRL) on the portion of the alley fronting W Street, N.W.;
- Prior to the closure of the alley, the Applicant records in the Recorder of Deeds a public access easement approved by DDOT for the portion of the Property to be used as Bryant Street, N.W. and constructs the transportation improvements within the public access easement, including a 7-foot sidewalk, a 4-foot tree box, and two-way travel lanes consistent with DDOT standards and specifications; and
- Prior to the closure of the alley, the Applicant must record in the Recorder of Deeds an easement for the 8th and 9th Street, N.W. sidewalks in a form approved by DDOT. The easement shall encumber the portion of the Property to be improved by an 8-foot sidewalk and a 5-foot treebox subject to public space permitting. The Applicant shall be responsible for maintenance of the sidewalk and tree boxes until DDOT has accepted them.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1103**, the “Union Court Alley Closing and Public Safety Improvement Act of 2022,” is to order the closing of a portion of an alley in Square 358 abutting Lots 53, 54, 55, 56, 60, 61, and 803 in Ward 1.

DDOT has not yet been asked to evaluate the impacts and identify DDOT assets, as there is not an associated Surveyor's Order that has been referred to DDOT. As such, DDOT objects to the closure until this evaluation can take place and the

Surveyor's Order can be filed and referred to DDOT. The agency would also like to note that since no Surveyor's Order has been filed, utility companies have also not had the opportunity to review the proposed closure.

I will now discuss the bills related to official and symbolic street and alley namings. The stated purpose of **Bill 24-892** is to *symbolically* designate the 700 Block of Quebec Place, N.W., in Ward 1, as *Bishop Clarence Groover, Sr. Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the 700 Block of Quebec Place, N.W. 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 two total signs, totaling \$380.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1025** is to *officially* designate the 700 and 800 blocks of Mount Vernon Place, N.W., as *Allen Y. Lew Place*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of the plat of the designated blocks. Sufficient signage requires four total signs, totaling \$760.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1032** is to *symbolically* designate the 1500 block of Channing Street, N.E., in Ward 5, as *Benjamin Secundy, Sr. Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the 1500 block of Channing Street, N.E. Sufficient signage requires two total signs, totaling \$380.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1057** is to *symbolically* designate the 500 block of 55th Street, N.E., as *Woodson Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the 500 block of 55th Street, N.E. Sufficient signage requires two total signs, totaling \$380.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1058** is to *symbolically* designate the street known as 1400 Cedar Street, S.E., in Ward 8, as *Davon T. McNeal, III Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting 1400 Cedar Street, S.E. Sufficient signage requires one sign as there is only one entrance to the street, totaling \$190.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1061** is to *officially* designate the public alley system within Square 3562, bounded by 3rd Street, N.E., W Street, N.E., 4th Street N.E., and V Street, N.E., in Ward 5, as *Wooten Court*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of the plat of the designated alley system. Sufficient signage requires five total signs, totaling \$950.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1062** is to *symbolically* designate the portion of 10th Place, S.E. in Squares 5933, 5934, 5938, and 5939 between Mississippi Avenue, S.E. and Savannah Street, S.E., as *Cassandra S. Pinkney Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the portion of 10th Place, S.E. described in the bill. Sufficient signage requires four total signs, totaling \$760.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1087** is to *symbolically* designate the 300 block of 53rd Street, N.E., as *Makiyah Wilson Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the 300 block of 53rd Street, N.E. Sufficient signage requires four total signs, totaling \$760.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1090** is to *symbolically* designate Swann Street, N.W., between 14th Street, N.W., and 19th Street, N.W., in Ward 2, as *William Dorsey Swann Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the street described in the bill. Sufficient signage requires eleven total signs, totaling \$2,090.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1093** is to *symbolically* designate 18th Street, N.W., between M Street, N.W., and N Street, N.W., in Ward 2, as *Sam “The Man” Burns Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the street described in the bill. Sufficient signage requires six total signs, totaling \$1,140.

The stated purpose of **Bill 24-1101** is to *symbolically* designate 14th Street, N.W., between Allison Street, N.W. and Arkansas Avenue, N.W., in Ward 4, as *Xi Omega Way*. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the street described in the bill. Sufficient signage requires four total signs, totaling \$760.

DDOT can absorb the costs of these signs within its current budget and does not foresee any operational impact these official and symbolic namings would have on the District's transportation network. Therefore, the Administration has no objection to these street and alley namings, 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.



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Howard Dilworth Woodson Senior High School

540 55th Street, NE

Washington, DC 20019

(202) 939-2030 Main (202) 388-3489 Fax

Principal: Mr. William Massey

Dear District of Columbia City Council,

Woodson High School thanks you for considering the renaming of the block in front of our school, Woodson Way. As we know, Howard Dilworth Woodson was a Civil/Structural Engineer who was passionate about the development of the Deanwood area.

The community celebrates and stands behind our school and our scholars! The legacy of our school is one of great pride. Many of the citizens that live in Deanwood now remember their experiences at Woodson and "The Woodson Way"

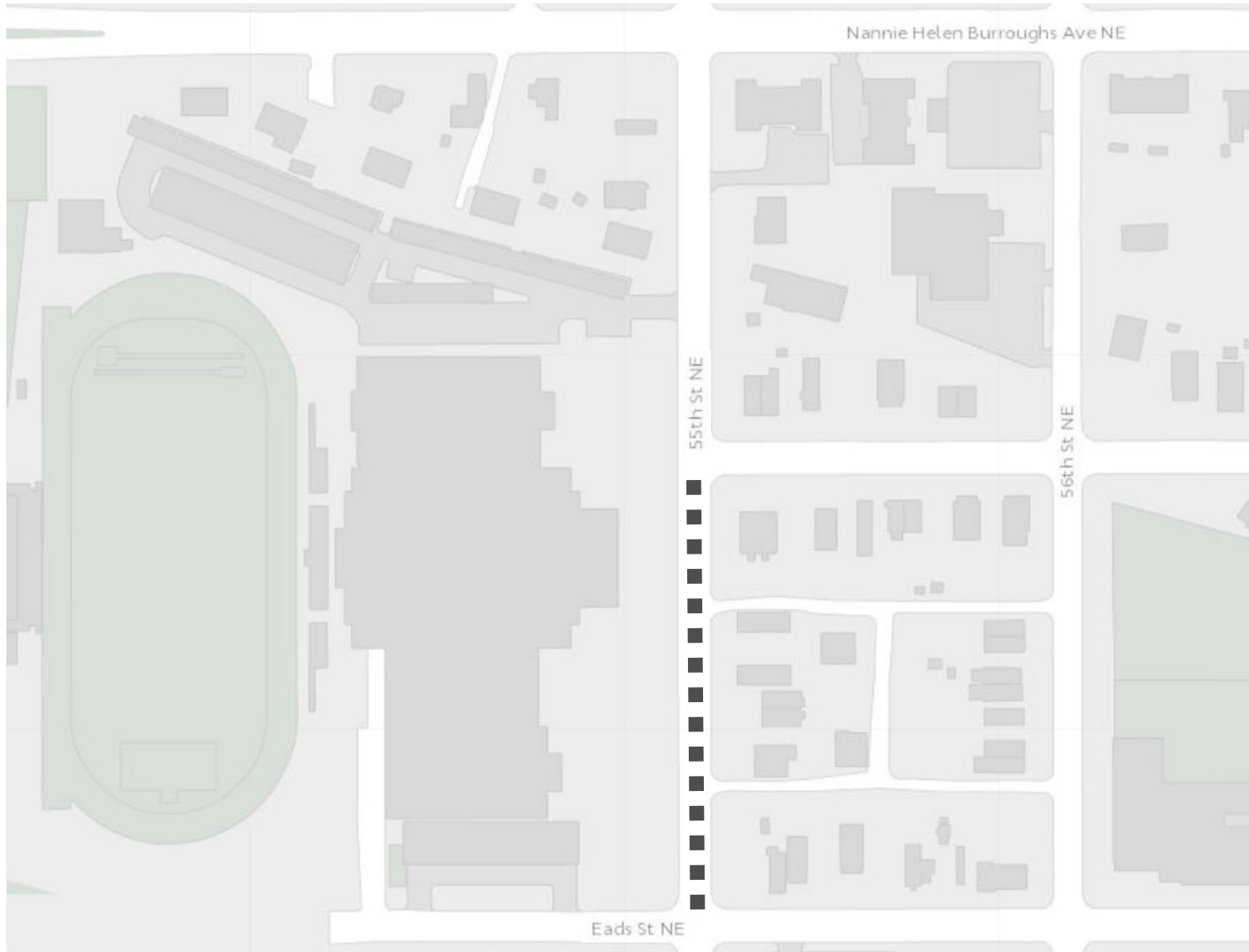
The "Woodson Way" is a philosophy that was coined by Mr. James Curry, one of the school's first Principals. It's an ideology that celebrates and stresses the importance of resiliency in the HD Woodson scholar. Our scholars fully support and are excited about the possible renaming of the block in front of the school. What better way to celebrate and honor them than to allow the renaming of the block in front of their school in honor of the resiliency that they show each and every day as young people?

Sincerely,

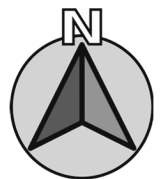
William Massey

Principal of HD Woodson School

Bill 25-23, Woodson Way Designation Act of 2023



THE AREA SHOWN THUS ■ ■ ■ ■ IS SYMBOLICALLY DESIGNATED AS WOODSON WAY



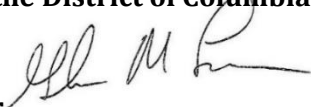
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Glen Lee
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Glen Lee
Chief Financial Officer 

DATE: February 23, 2023

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Woodson Way Designation Act of 2023

REFERENCE: Bill 25-23, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue
Analysis on February 17, 2023

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2026 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

Howard Dilworth Woodson was a civic leader in the District's Far Northeast and Deanwood neighborhoods in the 1950's. Woodson was one of the many advocates for a high school in his neighborhood, and in 1972, the District opened H.D. Woodson Senior High School,¹ named in his honor. Howard Dilworth Woodson died on March 2, 1962.

The bill symbolically designates the 500 block of 55th Street, N.E. as Woodson Way.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2026 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will fabricate and install two signs to symbolically designate the roadway as Woodson Way. The signs cost \$380 and DDOT can absorb this cost within its existing budgeted resources.

¹ H.D. Woodson Senior High School is located at 540 55th Street, N.E.

1 **DRAFT COMMITTEE PRINT**
2 **Committee of the Whole**
3 **March 7, 2023**

4
5 A BILL

6
7
8 25-23
9

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

15 To symbolically designate the 500 Block of 55th Street, N.E., as Woodson Way.
16

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
18 act may be cited as the “Woodson Way Designation Act of 2023”.

19 Sec. 2. Pursuant to sections 401, 403a, and 423 of the Street and Alley Closing and
20 Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201; D.C. Official
21 Code §§ 9-204.01, 9-204.03a, and 9-204.23), the Council symbolically designates the 500 Block
22 of 55th Street, N.E., as “Woodson Way.”

23 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

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

27 Sec. 4. Effective date.

28 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
29 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
30 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
31 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code §1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
32 Columbia Register.