

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
District Department of Transportation



Public Hearing on
Bill 25-794, the “Evanti Court Designation Act of 2024”
Bill 25-812, the “Ida B. Wells Alley Designation Act of 2024”
Bill 25-613, the “Cain’s Way Designation Act of 2023”
Bill 25-743, the “Alexei Navalny Way Designation Act of 2024”
Bill 25-748, the “Joseph P. Yeldell Plaza Designation Act of 2024”
Bill 25-828, the “Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024”
Bill 25-829, the “Zelda Fichandler Way Designation Act of 2024”
Bill 25-830, the “Pearl B. Settles Way Designation Act of 2024”

Testimony of
Brant Miller
Manager, Policy and Legislative Affairs Division
District Department of Transportation

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

Friday, July 12, 2024
1:00 p.m.
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20004
Hearing Room 412

Good morning, Chairman Mendelson, members of the Council, staff, and District residents. My name is Brant Miller, 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 Acting Director Sharon Kershbaum regarding six (6) symbolic street naming bills and two (2) bills officially naming public alley systems:

- Bill 25-794, the “Evanti Court Designation Act of 2024”
- Bill 25-812, the “Ida B. Wells Alley Designation Act of 2024”
- Bill 25-613, the “Cain’s Way Designation Act of 2023”
- Bill 25-743, the “Alexei Navalny Way Designation Act of 2024”
- Bill 25-748, the “Joseph P. Yeldell Plaza Designation Act of 2024”
- Bill 25-828, the “Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024”
- Bill 25-829, the “Zelda Fichandler Way Designation Act of 2024”
- Bill 25-830, the “Pearl B. Settles Way Designation Act of 2024”

The stated purpose of **Bill 25-749** is to *officially* designate the public alley system in Square 2863, bounded by Euclid Street, Fairmont Street, Sherman Avenue, and 11th Street Northwest, in Ward 1, as “*Evanti Court*”. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of the plat of the designated alley system. DDOT notes that in addition to new signage, this newly designated alley system will require new poles. In fiscal terms, the cost of each installed sign for this designation is approximately \$190 (\$65 for sign fabrication and \$125 for sign installation), and \$270 for each new pole installed. Sufficient signage requires three (3) total signs and three (3) poles, totaling \$1,380.

The stated purpose of **Bill 25-812** is to *officially* designate Square 6153, Lots 84 and 85, located at 3929-3931 4th Street, SE, close to the intersection 4th Street SE and Atlantic Street, SE, in Ward 8 as “*Ida B. Wells Alley*”. Please note, square 6153 is currently pending development approval, which is necessary to complete the public alley system depicted in this bill. The pending alley dedication application in review with the Office of the Surveyor will dedicate 9 ft. to public space and expand the existing 15 ft. paper alley to a 24-foot-wide paved alley. I have attached to this testimony a copy of the application. Sufficient signage requires three (3) total signs and three (3) poles, totaling \$1,380.

The stated purpose of **Bill 25-613** is to *symbolically* designate public alley system within Square 1071, bounded by 15th Street, S.E., East Capitol Street, 16th Street, S.E., and A Street, S.E., as “*Cain’s Way*”. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the public alley system described in the bill. Sufficient signage requires three (3) total signs and three (3) poles, totaling \$1,380.

The stated purpose of **Bill 25-743** is to *symbolically* designate a portion of the public alley system in Square 197 abutting Lots 841, 820, and 88, as “*Alexei Navalny Way*”. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the public alley system described in the bill. Sufficient signage requires two (2) total signs and two (2) poles, totaling \$920.

The stated purpose of **Bill 25-748** is to *symbolically* designate the 8100 block of 16th Street, N.W., between Eastern Avenue, N.W., and Portal Drive, N.W., the 1600 block of North Portal Drive, N.W., between Eastern Avenue, N.W., and Tamarack Street, N.W., and the 8200 block of Eastern Avenue, N.W., between 16th Street, N.W. and Portal Drive, N.W., as “*Joseph P. Yeldell Plaza*”. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the blocks described in the bill. Sufficient signage requires eight (8) signs, totaling \$1,520.

The stated purpose of **Bill 25-828** is to *symbolically* designate 15th Street, N.W., between Church Street, N.W. and Q Street, N.W., in Ward 2, as “*Alma Thomas Way*”. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the portion of 15th Street described in the bill. Sufficient signage requires two (2) signs, totaling \$380.

The stated purpose of **Bill 25-829** is to *symbolically* designate 6th Street, SW, between M Street, SW, and the northern boundary of Square 472, Lot 129, as “*Zelda Fichandler Way*”. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the portion of 6th Street described in the bill. Sufficient signage requires three (3) signs and one (1) poll, totaling \$840.

The stated purpose of **Bill 25-830** is to *symbolically* designate the 200 block of 37th Place, S.E. as “*Pearl B. Settles Way*”. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the 200 block of 37th Place, S.E. Sufficient signage requires one (1) sign, totaling \$190.

The total cost for sufficient signage (including polls) for all of these bills is \$7,990. DDOT can absorb the costs of these signs and poles within its current budget and does not foresee any operational impact that these official and symbolic namings would have on the District’s transportation network. Therefore, the Administration has no objection to these street, alley and public space namings. 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.

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