



**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER BROOKE PINTO**  
THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING  
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 106  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

June 2, 2023

Nyasha Smith, Secretary  
Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Secretary Smith,

Today, along with Councilmembers Charles Allen, Robert C. White, Jr., Anita Bonds, Vincent C. Gray, and Christina Henderson, I am introducing the "Gordon Way Designation Act of 2023." Please find enclosed a signed copy of the legislation.

This legislation would symbolically designate the public alley system within Square 242, bounded by 14<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., Logan Circle, N.W., Vermont Avenue, N.W., and N Street N.W., as "Gordon Way," in honor of Robert B. Gordon.

Mr. Gordon was a native Washingtonian and a graduate of Howard University, where he studied architecture. He later returned to his alma mater as a professor of architecture and was also an architect at his firm, Navy, Marshall, and Gordon, P.C.

Following the riots that occurred after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., many homes in the Logan Circle area were left vacant and fell into disrepair for several years. Under Mayor Marion Barry, the city eventually sold these abandoned and deteriorating homes to District residents who promised to refurbish them to revive the neighborhood and rebuild the community. Mr. Gordon aided in the revitalization of the Logan Circle neighborhood via the redesign and refurbishment of a large, historic Victorian home on Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., which he purchased with his wife, Doll, in 1979. The Logan Circle Heritage Trail memorializes the purchase and refurbishment of this home at marker number 10.

The alley to be symbolically named runs behind the Gordon's refurbished home, and Mr. Gordon resided there with his wife until his passing in 1998. Doll Gordon still lives in this home, and this alley is where she hosts her annual "Alley Party" to continue building community in the neighborhood.

This alley designation will honor Robert B. Gordon's legacy in the place he called home and the neighborhood he helped revitalize.

Should you have any questions about this legislation, please contact my Legislative Counsel, Kristin Ewing, at [kewing@dccouncil.gov](mailto:kewing@dccouncil.gov).

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "BE PINTO". The letters are stylized and connected, with a long horizontal flourish extending from the end of the signature.

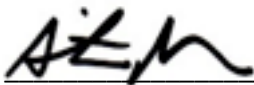
Brooke Pinto

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2 Councilmember Charles Allen



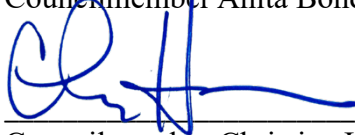
Councilmember Brooke Pinto

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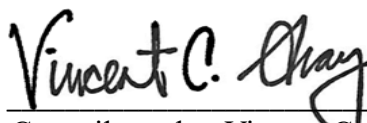
6 Councilmember Anita Bonds



Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

8 

10 Councilmember Christina Henderson



Councilmember Vincent C. Gray

13 A BILL

17 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

22 To symbolically designate the public alley system within Square 242, bounded by 14th Street,  
23 N.W., Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., Logan Circle, N.W., Vermont Avenue, N.W., and N  
24 Street N.W., as Gordon Way.

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

28 Sec. 2. Pursuant to sections 401, 403a, and 423 of the Street and Alley Closing and  
29 Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201; D.C. Official  
30 Code §§ 9-204.01, 9-204.03a, and 9-204.23), the Council symbolically designates the public  
31 alley system within Square 242, bounded by 14th Street, N.W., Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.,  
32 Logan Circle, N.W., Vermont Avenue, N.W., and N Street N.W., as “Gordon Way”.

33 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

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

37           Sec. 4. Effective date.

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