

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

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

TO: All Councilmembers

FROM: Chairman Phil Mendelson
Committee of the Whole

DATE: September 17, 2024

SUBJECT: Report on Bill 25-828, the "Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024"

The Committee of the Whole, to which Bill 25-828, the "Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024" was referred, reports favorably thereon with technical amendments and recommends approval by the Council.

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I. BACKGROUND AND NEED

Bill 25-828, the "Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024" was introduced on May 24, 2024 by Councilmembers Christina Henderson and Brooke Pinto. This bill would symbolically designate 15th Street, N.W., between Church Street, N.W. and Q Street, N.W., as Alma Thomas Way. The location is in Ward 2. A symbolic naming is for ceremonial purposes and shall be in addition to and subordinate to any name that is an official name.

Alma Thomas was born in Columbus, Georgia in 1891. She moved to the District with her family in 1906 after the Atlanta riot, in search of safety and educational opportunities that were denied to Black people in Georgia. The family lived in a townhome near 15th and Church Streets, N.W., less than a block from St. Luke's Episcopal Church which the family attended. Ms. Thomas and her sisters attended Armstrong Manual Training School (now Friendship Public Charter School). Ms. Thomas went on to attend Howard University where she obtained her Bachelors of Science degree in fine arts for sculpture in 1924.

Ms. Thomas went on to teach at Shaw Junior High School, which was segregated, under-resourced, overly crowded, and poorly maintained. However, Ms. Thomas persisted in increasing her students' cultural horizons by taking them to museums throughout the District and challenging them to produce their own art in a variety of media. She exhibited the students' work throughout the school building so they could see themselves reflected in their art world. She also made sure to incorporate African American history in her lessons, celebrated Negro History Week every February, and invited Black artists to speak to her classes. While she taught, she continued to work on her own art and continued her education earning a master's degree in art education from Columbia University. In 1943, Ms. Thomas helped found the Barnett-Aden Gallery near Truxton Circle which was the first Black-owned private gallery in the United States. She served as Vice President of the gallery and served on the Board for many years. She continued to immerse herself in art education taking night classes for over a decade at American University studying art history and painting.

Alma Thomas retired from teaching in 1960 and became a full time painter. She worked out of her home studio on 15th Street. An arthritis flare up in 1964 caused her to adapt her painting style to continue to create art with her condition. Her work was featured in exhibits in galleries and at universities across the District. At age 81, she became the first African-American woman to put on a solo exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art, and she was featured at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in a solo exhibit that was attended by former Mayor Walter Washington, who proclaimed September 8, 1972 as "Alma Thomas Day." Her works have been shown in top museums around the United States. Ms. Thomas passed away in 1978, after which her home on 15th Street was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Designating this portion of 15th Street, where Alma Thomas lived and produced art throughout her life, as Alma Thomas Way will serve to uplift her legacy in the community.

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

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).

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 25-828, “Alma Thomas Way” is a symbolic designation of 15th Street, N.W., between Church Street, N.W. and Q 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. Notice of the hearing was filed with the Secretary to the Council on June 14, 2024 and published in the D.C. Register on June 21, 2024.

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 names.⁷

Symbolically designating this portion of 15th Street as Alma Thomas Way will be a fitting tribute. Thus, the Committee of the Whole recommends Council approval of Bill 25-828, the “Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024.”

II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

May 24, 2024	Bill 25-828, the “Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024” is introduced by Councilmembers Christina Henderson and Brooke Pinto.
May 31, 2024	Notice of Intent to Act on Bill 25-828 is published in the <i>DC Register</i> .
June 11, 2024	Bill 25-828 is officially “read” at Legislative Meeting and the referral to the Committee of the Whole is official.
June 21, 2024	Notice of a public hearing on Bill 25-828 is published in the <i>DC Register</i> .
July 12, 2024	The Committee of the Whole holds a hearing on Bill 25-828.
September 17, 2024	The Committee of the Whole marks up Bill 25-828.

III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Brant Miller, Interim Manager, Policy and Legislative Affairs Division, District Department of Transportation, testified on behalf of the Executive that it has “no objection” to the symbolic street naming of a portion of this alley system. His testimony is attached.

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).

IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

The Committee received no testimony or comments from any Advisory Neighborhood Commission on Bill 25-828.

V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee of the Whole held a public hearing on several bills, including Bill 25-828 on Friday, July 12, 2024. The testimony summarized below pertains Bill 25-828.

Robert Vinson Brannum, Public Witness, testified in support of the designation.

Brant Miller, Interim Manager, Policy and Legislative Affairs Division, 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 25-828.

VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

Bill 25-828 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 25-828 symbolically designates 15th Street, N.W., between Church Street, N.W. and Q Street, N.W., as Alma Thomas Way. Additionally, “a symbolic name of a street or alley shall contain only the suffix Way or Plaza,” such as proposed by Bill 25-828.¹⁰ 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 Ms. Thomas passed away in 1978.

VII. FISCAL IMPACT

According to the September 16, 2024 Fiscal Impact Statement of the Chief Financial Officer, funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2024 through fiscal year 2027 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 for two signs), the cost of Bill 25-828 can be absorbed.

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.

VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

<u>Section 1</u>	States the short title of Bill 25-828.
<u>Section 2</u>	Symbolically designates 15th Street, N.W., between Church Street, N.W. and Q Street, N.W., as Alma Thomas 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

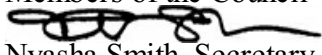
On September 17, 2024, the Committee met to consider Bill 25-828, the “Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024.” The meeting was called to order at 1:13 p.m., and Bill 25-828 was item V-J on the agenda. After ascertaining a quorum (Chairman Mendelson and Councilmembers Allen, Bonds, Frumin, Gray, Henderson, Lewis George, McDuffie, Nadeau, Parker, Pinto, R. White, and T. White present), Chairman Mendelson moved the committee print and report for Bill 25-828, with leave for staff to make technical, conforming, and editorial changes. Councilmember Henderson spoke in support of the designation and discussed Ms. Thomas’s art. After an opportunity for further discussion, the voice vote on the committee print and report was unanimous (Chairman Mendelson and Councilmembers Allen, Bonds, Frumin, Gray, Henderson, Lewis George, McDuffie, Nadeau, Parker, Pinto, R. White, and T. White voting aye). The meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

X. ATTACHMENTS

1. Bill 25-828 as introduced.
2. Testimony for Bill 25-828.
3. Map of Proposed Designation.
4. Fiscal Impact Statement for Bill 25-828.
5. Legal Sufficiency Determination for Bill 25-828.
6. Committee Print for Bill 25-828.

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 : Tuesday, May 28, 2024
Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Friday, May 24, 2024. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024", B25-0828

INTRODUCED BY: Councilmembers Henderson and Pinto

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

Attachment
cc: General Counsel
Budget Director
Legislative Services



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

CHRISTINA HENDERSON
Councilmember, At-Large
Chairperson, Committee on Health

Committee Member
Hospital and Health Equity
Judiciary and Public Safety
Transportation and the Environment

Statement of Introduction
Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024
May 24, 2024

Today, along with Councilmember Brooke Pinto, I am introducing the Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024. This legislation would symbolically designate 15th St. NW between Church St. NW and Q St. NW in Ward 2 as Alma Thomas Way, in honor of the trailblazing artist, dedicated educator, and Logan Circle resident of more than 70 years.

Born in Columbus, Georgia, in 1891, Alma Thomas moved to the District with her parents and sisters in 1906. Her parents sought safety following the 1906 Atlanta riot and also desired for their daughters the secondary education opportunities denied to Black people in Georgia. The family settled in a townhome at 1530 15th St. NW, where Ms. Thomas lived and worked for the rest of her life. The Thomas family put down roots in Logan Circle, attending St. Luke's Episcopal Church on the corner of 15th and Church St. and sending their daughters to the Armstrong Manual Training School, which today is the site of Friendship Public Charter School. In 1924, Ms. Thomas became the first person to graduate from Howard University's fine arts program with a Bachelor of Science degree in sculpture.

For 35 years after graduating from Howard, Ms. Thomas taught art classes at Shaw Junior High School. The school was segregated, under-resourced, crowded, and poorly maintained, but Ms. Thomas did not let these limitations interfere with her pedagogy. She opened her students' horizons, taking them on field trips to cultural sites and museums in the District such as public libraries, the Library of Congress, the Capitol, Smithsonian museums, the Freer Art Gallery, and the Duncan Phillip Memorial Galleries. She not only taught her students about art but required them to produce their own art in a variety of mediums, and exhibited her students' works throughout the school building. She wanted her students to see themselves reflected in the art world, and she celebrated Negro History Week every February, incorporated African American history into her lessons, and invited Black artists to visit her class and speak with her students. At Shaw, she also organized the first art gallery in DC public schools, which featured paintings by Black artists.

While teaching, she continued to experiment with art mediums and styles through practical experience and higher education. Her early paintings featured watercolors, and over the summers of 1930-1934, she earned a master's degree in art education from Columbia University, studying sculpture and marionettes. In 1943, she helped found the Barnett-Aden Gallery in Truxton Circle, which was the first Black-owned private gallery in the United States. She served as the Gallery's Vice President and on its board for many years. Her work was featured at the gallery, and the artistic community nurtured there exposed her to new and evolving art forms. She pursued additional training at American University, taking night classes over a decade studying

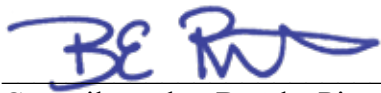


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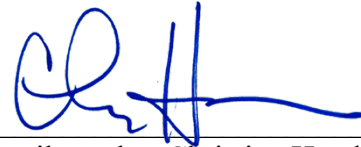
art history and painting. Through these experiences, her artistry evolved, and she explored more modern art forms such as cubism and abstract expressionism, gravitating toward bright colors in her work.

In 1960, when she retired from teaching, Ms. Thomas became a full-time painter. She often worked out of her home studio on 15th St., painting the trees and flowers in her yard. In 1964, she suffered an arthritis flare-up so severe that she feared that she could not continue painting. However, she adapted her painting style, moving toward pointillism, but creating her own unique style of dabbing many vibrant colors of paint in geometric patterns that represent nature, emotions, and senses. Signature works during this period, many inspired by her garden and the District's nature, include *Air View of Spring Nursery* (1966), *Resurrection* (1966), *Wind, Sunshine and Flowers* (1968), *Pansies in Washington* (1969), *Snoopy--Early Sun Display on Earth* (1970), *Springtime in Washington* (1971), *Evening Glow* (1972), and *Cherry Blossom Symphony* (1973). Color and light are a signature aspect of her seminal works; as she explained, "Color is life, and light is the mother of color."

In addition to showing her work at the Barnett-Aden Gallery, her work was featured in exhibits at American University in 1958 and at the Howard University Gallery of Art in 1966, when she was 75 years old. In 1972, at the age of 81, she became the first African-American woman to have a solo exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art. In that same year, the Corcoran Gallery of Art also featured her work in a solo exhibit, which was attended by Mayor Walter Washington who designated September 8 as "Alma Thomas Day." In 1976, her painting *Red Roses Sonata* (1972) was acquired by the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Her works were also shown at museums in Baltimore, Boston, and New York. She died in the District in 1978 after a life spent honoring beauty, creativity, education, and community care. Her home was placed on the National Register of Historic Places soon after her passing, and by designating the road in front of her home as "Alma Thomas Way," the Council can uplift her legacy in our community.

1 

2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto



Councilmember Christina Henderson

10 A BILL

15 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

19 To symbolically designate 15th Street, N.W., between Church Street, N.W. and Q Street, N.W.,
20 in Ward 2, as Alma Thomas Way.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
23 act may be cited as the “Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024”.

24 Sec. 2. Pursuant to sections 401, 403a, and 423 of the Street and Alley Closing and
25 Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201; D.C. Official
26 Code §§ 9-204.01, 9-204.03a, and 9-204.23), the Council symbolically designates 15th Street,
27 N.W., between Church Street, N.W. and Q Street, N.W., in Ward 2, as “Alma Thomas Way”.

28 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

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

32 Sec. 4. Effective date.

33 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
34 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as

35 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
36 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
37 Columbia Register.

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.

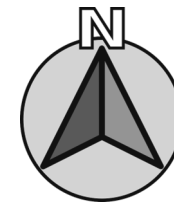
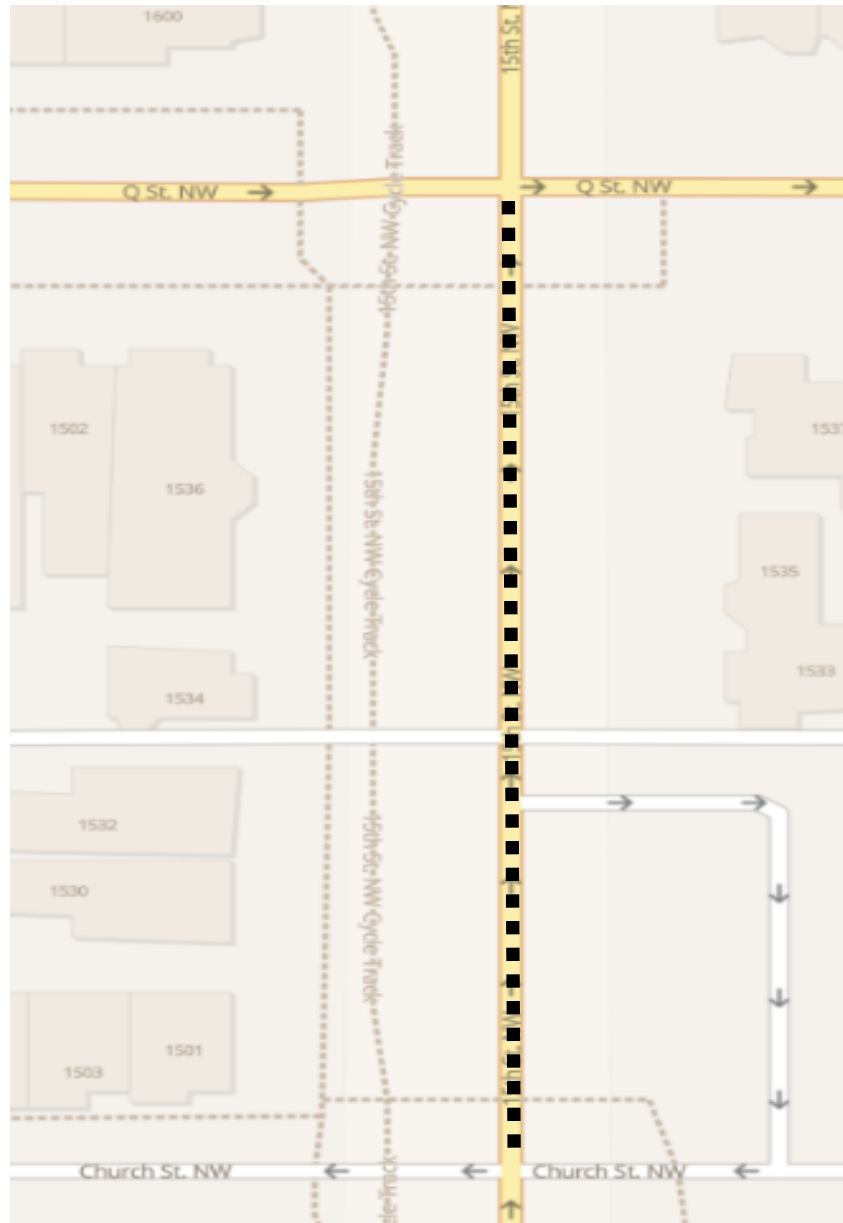
The stated purpose of **Bill 25-829** is to *symbolically* designate 6th Street, SW, between M Street, SW, and the northern boundary of Square 472, Lot 129, as “*Zelda Fichandler Way*”. For visualization purposes, I have attached to this testimony a copy of a DDOT-generated map highlighting the portion 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.

Bill 25-828, Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024



THE AREA SHOWN THUS ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ IS SYMBOLICALLY DESIGNATED AS ALMA THOMAS WAY

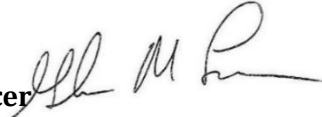
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



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: September 16, 2024

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024

REFERENCE: Bill 25-828, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on September 3, 2024

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2025 through fiscal year 2028 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

Alma Thomas was an artist who was Howard University's first fine arts graduate. She also taught at Shaw Junior High School for thirty-five years. In 1943, Thomas helped establish the Barnett Aden Gallery, one of the first black-owned art galleries in the United States. Thomas was known for her use of vibrant colors and rhythmic patterns, often using the District's parks as inspiration for her paintings. In 1972, she was the first black woman to have a solo exhibition in the Whitney Museum of American Art. Thomas died on February 24, 1978.

The bill symbolically designates 15th Street, N.W. between Church Street, N.W. and Q Street, N.W. as Alma Thomas Way.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2025 through fiscal year 2028 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 Alma Thomas Way. The signs will cost \$380 and DDOT can absorb the cost within its existing budgeted resources.



OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 4
Washington, DC 20004
(202) 724-8026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman Phil Mendelson

FROM: Nicole L. Streeter, General Counsel *NLS*

DATE: September 17, 2024

RE: Legal sufficiency determination for Bill 25-828, the Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024

The measure is legally and technically sufficient for Council consideration.

The proposed bill symbolically designates, 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), 15th Street, NW, between Church Street, NW, and Q Street, NW, as "Alma Thomas Way".

I am available if you have any questions.

1 **COMMITTEE PRINT**
2 **Committee of the Whole**
3 **September 17, 2024**

4
5 A BILL

6
7
8 25-828
9

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

15 To symbolically designate 15th Street, N.W., between Church Street, N.W. and Q Street, N.W.,
16 as Alma Thomas Way.
17

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
19 act may be cited as the “Alma Thomas Way Designation Act of 2024”.

20 Sec. 2. Pursuant to sections 401, 403a, and 423 of the Street and Alley Closing and
21 Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201; D.C. Official
22 Code §§ 9-204.01, 9-204.03a, and 9-204.23), the Council symbolically designates 15th Street,
23 N.W., between Church Street, N.W. and Q Street, N.W., as “Alma Thomas Way”.

24 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

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

28 Sec. 4. Effective date.

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