

Statement of Introduction
Pearl B. Settles Way Designation Act of 2024
Councilmember Vincent C. Gray
Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Today, I introduce the Pearl B. Settles Way Designation Act of 2024, along with Councilmembers Christina Henderson and Matthew Frumin, to symbolically designate the 200 block 37th Place, S.E., as Pearl B. Settles Way.

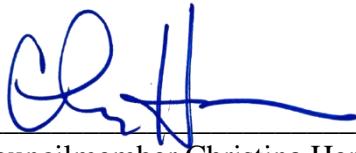
This symbolic designation of this block, also known as “The Hill” in the Stoddert Terrace community of Ward 7, is in honor of Mrs. Pearl B. Settles, a lifelong Washingtonian who lived in the Stoddert Terrace public housing development at 236 37th Place, S.E. and served the Stoddert Terrace community until her passing in 1986.

Pearl Settles was an elected Resident Council Member, an active Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner Member (ANC 7F01) and served on the District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) Board with such notables as Kimi Gray and Phoebe Scott as well as others. During her representation, Mrs. Settles became known throughout the community by leading and/or supporting affordable day care in the community and community workshops; facilitating employment opportunities for residents; helping with food distribution for the needy, including food baskets during Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays; holding clean-up campaigns in the neighborhood; participating in and conducting regular community meetings; and coordinating community block parties. Due to her community involvement and intervention with potential criminals or criminal activity, Mrs. Settles fostered a low-crime rate in the neighborhood. She and fellow a 37th Place resident and faithful churchgoer Mrs. Lillie Brown established a Vacation Bible School for children and adults during summer school breaks, and in addition to raising her own 11 children, Mrs. Pearl Settles served as a mother figure to many children who needed direction.

Mrs. Pearl B. Settles is remembered for her exceptional dedication to her community and neighborhood, taking ownership of their welfare and fostering a sense of unity and care among residents. Symbolically naming the 200 block 37th Place, S.E. on which she lived will serve as a lasting tribute to Mrs. Settles’ a legacy of service, compassion, and community leadership, reminding future generations of her remarkable contributions to the neighborhood.

ANC 7F unanimously passed a resolution in support of this naming in memory of Mrs. Pearl B. Settles, in recognition of her enduring contributions to the neighborhood, her commitment to providing opportunities for residents, and her efforts in maintaining community safety, which continue to be celebrated and remembered to this day in the year 2024.

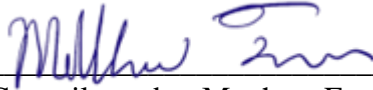
I look forward to working with my colleagues to successfully pass this legislation.

1 

2 Councilmember Christina Henderson



Councilmember Vincent C. Gray

3 

4 Councilmember Matthew Frumin

5
6 A BILL

7 _____
8 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

9 _____
10 To symbolically designate the 200 block 37th Place, S.E. as Pearl B. Settles Way.

11
12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
13 act may be cited as the “Pearl B. Settles Way Designation Act of 2024”.

14 Sec. 2. Pursuant to sections 401, 403a, and 421 of the Street and Alley Closing and
15 Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201; D.C. Official
16 Code §§ 9-204.01, 9-204.03a, and 9-204.21), the Council symbolically designates the 200 block
17 37th Place, S.E. as “Pearl B. Settles Way”.

18 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

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

22 Sec. 4. Effective date.

23 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
24 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
25 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24,
26 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
27 Columbia Register.