LOCAL LAWS

A OF 2024 (AA 5/20) A LOCAL LAW AMENDING PART 8 (SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE) OF CHAPTER 42 (DEPARTMENTS AND COMMISSIONS) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO RENAMING AND ADJUSTING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

E OF 2024 A LOCAL LAW REPEALING ARTICLE XXIII (PROHIBITION OF EVICTION WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE) OF CHAPTER 30 (CITY COURT ACT) AND ADDING A NEW PART 6 (PROHIBITION OF EVICTION WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE) TO CHAPTER 231 (HOUSING) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION PROHIBITING EVICTIONS WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE

ORDINANCES

1.12.24 (AA 5/6) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 353-63 (“MAXIMUM CHARGES”) OF CHAPTER 353 (“VEHICLES FOR HIRE”) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO INCREASING THE MAXIMUM FEE TOW TRUCK OPERATORS MAY CHARGE FOR TOWS NOT REQUESTED BY THE OWNER OF THE VEHICLE TO BE TOWED

RESOLUTIONS

39.42.24R A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ANNE M. POPE TO THE CITY OF ALBANY AND RENAMING A PORTION OF SECOND AVENUE AND GRANDVIEW TERRACE IN HER HONOR

46.51.24R A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ELEANOR BAIRD AND RENAMING A PORTION OF SECOND STREET IN HER HONOR
Council Member Balarin, on behalf of the Committee on Planning, Economic Development, and Land Use, introduced the following:

LOCAL LAW A OF 2024 (As Amended 5/20/24)

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING PART 8 (SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE) OF CHAPTER 42 (DEPARTMENTS AND COMMISSIONS) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO RENAMING AND ADJUSTING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Be it enacted, by the Common Council of the City of Albany, as follows:

Section 1. Part 8 (Sustainability Advisory Committee) of Chapter 42 (Departments and Commissions) of Part I (Administrative Legislation) of the Code of the City of Albany is hereby amended to read as follows:

**Part 8 Sustainability Advisory Committee Commission**

§ 42-132 Legislative intent.
The City of Albany by Resolution 51.52.09R and Executive Order No. 422-09 has pledged to combat climate change and take action to adopt more sustainable practices by becoming a “Climate Smart Community.” The City of Albany Common Council believes that the social, economic, and environmental aspects of sustainability are key to the successful implementation of the Albany 2030 Plan. Additionally, the City of Albany Common Council believes that there is overwhelming scientific consensus that climate change poses a real and increasing threat to our local and global environments which is primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels. The effects of climate change will endanger our infrastructure, economy and livelihoods; harm our farms and food systems, ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing our community’s resiliency will require sustained and substantial efforts by all levels of government, interest groups, and citizens. Establishment of a Sustainability Advisory Committee Commission is a necessary step in fostering unified action on climate change.

§ 42-133 Establishment; appointment of members.

A. There is hereby established a Sustainability Advisory Committee Commission comprised of 15 voting members, five of whom shall be appointed by the Mayor and five seven of whom shall be appointed by the Common Council. The remaining members of the Committee Commission shall be composed of the following: the Commissioner of the Department of General Service, the Commissioner of Development and Planning Neighborhood and Community Services, the Commissioner of the Water Department, the City Engineer, the Director of Infrastructure Management, the Director of Sustainability, and the head of the Police Traffic Safety Unit, or their designees.
B. The members appointed by the Mayor and Common Council shall be appointed for three-year terms; provided, however, that members initially appointed by the Mayor and Common Council, one shall be for a term of one year, two shall be for a term of two years, and two shall be for a term of three years.

C. Members shall continue to serve on the Committee Commission until their successors have been appointed.

D. Annually, from among its membership, the Committee Commission shall elect a Chair and such other officers as determined.

E. Any vacancy occasioned by resignation, death or removal of a member shall be filled promptly in the same manner as the predecessor to fill the unexpired term.

F. The Committee Commission shall have the authority to create subcommittees to focus on specific topics, including, but not limited to, energy, equity, transportation, water, waste, and food systems. Membership on the subcommittees shall be open to the general public at the discretion of the Committee Commission.

§ 42-134 Qualifications of members.
The members of the Committee Commission appointed by the Mayor and Common Council shall reside in the City of Albany and possess a reputation for fairness, integrity and responsibility and have demonstrated an active interest in public affairs and the environment. The Mayor and the Common Council shall reflect community diversity in their appointments, including, but not limited to, income level, race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender and sexual orientation.

§ 42-135 Meetings; staff.
The Committee Commission shall meet no less than six times per year and shall establish a regular meeting calendar which is readily accessible to the public. Meetings of the Committee Commission shall be public and comply with provisions of the Open Meetings Law. The Mayor’s Office of Sustainability as staffed by the Division of Planning Department of Administrative Services shall serve as staff to the Committee Commission.

§ 42-136 Powers and duties.
The Committee Commission shall have the following functions, powers and duties to:

A. Study and recommend methods to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency, and renewable energy production, conserve water, reduce waste, and employ environmentally responsible products;

B. Promote the use of methods, systems, and materials that do not deplete natural land, water, and energy resources or harm natural cycles;

C. Encourage the growth of green businesses and green jobs within the City, as well as the adoption of sustainable practices by existing businesses;
D. Work cooperatively with similar task forces in neighboring communities to ensure that efforts complement and reinforce one another;

E. Empower every resident of the City, regardless of social demographics or economic means, by informing City residents of practical and attainable ways to live sustainably;

F. Consider ways for large academic, governmental, or institutional communities to become more environmentally sensitive;

G. Encourage and stimulate City of Albany agencies and departments to take such action as will fulfill the purposes of this Part;

H. Make recommendations as necessary and appropriate to the Mayor and the Common Council to effectuate the goals and purposes of this Part.

I. Assist with the implementation and monitoring of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plans, as well as the Capital Region Sustainability Plan.

§ 42-137 Reports.
The Committee shall file an annual report in by June 30 of each year with the Common Council and the Mayor summarizing the work and activities of the Committee since the previous June.

Section 2. Section 153-8 (Membership of CCA Oversight Board) of Chapter 153 (Community Choice Aggregation) of Part II (General Legislation) of the Code of the City of Albany is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 153-8 Membership of CCA Oversight Board.

A. The membership of the CCA Oversight Board shall consist of five members comprised of: two members of the Common Council selected by the President Pro Tem, the Chair of the Sustainability Advisory Committee or his or her designee, the Chief Planning Official or his or her designee, and a Mayoral appointee who is a resident of the City of Albany.

B. The Chairperson of this Board shall be chosen amongst the membership by a majority vote.

Section 3. This Local Law shall take effect upon passage, public hearing, and filing with the Secretary of State.

APPROVED AS TO FORM THIS
17TH DAY OF MAY, 2024

________________________________

Matter in strikethrough to be deleted. Matter underlined is new material.
Corporation Counsel

Matter in strikethrough to be deleted. Matter underlined is new material.
To: Shaniqua Jackson, City Clerk

From: Bryan Jimenez, Senior Legislative Aide
       Jake Eisland, Esq., Research Counsel

Re: Common Council Legislation
    Supporting Memorandum

Date: February 8, 2024

Sponsor(s): Balarin o/b/o Planning

LOCAL LAW A OF 2024 (As Amended 5/20/24)

TITLE
A LOCAL LAW AMENDING PART 8 (SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE) OF CHAPTER 42 (DEPARTMENTS AND COMMISSIONS) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO RENAMING AND ADJUSTING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

GENERAL PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION
This local law will rename the Sustainability Advisory Committee to the Sustainability Commission, increase the number of members serving on the Commission from fifteen to nineteen members, and adjust the membership to reflect the new City structure.

NECESSITY FOR LEGISLATION AND CHANGES TO EXISITING LAW
This legislation renames the Sustainability Advisory Committee to the Sustainability Commission to better align the name of the group with its organizational structure as well as increases the size of the Commission from fifteen to nineteen members. This will allow for greater input from department directors aligned with sustainability efforts and provides additional input from the Community, Mayor, and Common Council.

FISCAL IMPACT(S)
None.

Matter in strikethrough to be deleted. Matter underlined is new material.
Council Members Balarin, Adams, Anane, Farrell, Frederick, Johnson, Keegan, and Romero introduced the following:

LOCAL LAW E OF 2024

A LOCAL LAW REPEALING ARTICLE XXIII (PROHIBITION OF EVICTION WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE) OF CHAPTER 30 (CITY COURT ACT) AND ADDING A NEW PART 6 (PROHIBITION OF EVICTION WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE) TO CHAPTER 231 (HOUSING) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION PROHIBITING EVICTIONS WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE

Be it enacted, by the Common Council of the City of Albany, as follows:

Section 1. Article XXIII (Prohibition of Eviction Without Good Cause) of Chapter 30 (City Court Act) of Part I (Administrative Legislation) of the Code of the City of Albany is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 2. A new Part 6 (Prohibition of Eviction Without Good Cause) is hereby added to Chapter 231 (Housing) of Part II (General Legislation) of the Code of the City of Albany to read as follows:

§ 30-324 Protections Established

A. There is hereby established, pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of, section 213 of Article 6-A of the Real Property Law of the State of New York, a Prohibition of Eviction without Good Cause.

B. Pursuant to §213-2(a) of Article 6-A of the Real Property Law of the State of New York, the City of Albany provides that any unit on or within a housing accommodation shall be exempt from the provisions of this article if it has a monthly rate above three hundred forty-five percent of fair market rent as published by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and as shall be published for the County of Albany by the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal.

C. Pursuant to §213-2(b) of Article 6-A of the Real Property Law of the State of New York, the City of Albany defines “small landlord,” for purposes of this Part, to mean a landlord of no more than one unit anywhere in the State of New York.

Section 3. This Local Law shall take effect upon passage, public hearing, and filing with the Secretary of State.

APPROVED AS TO FORM THIS 24TH DAY OF APRIL, 2024

_______________________________
Corporation Counsel
To: Shaniqua Jackson, City Clerk

From: Jake Eisland, Esq., Research Counsel
       Robert Magee, Esq., Deputy Corporation Counsel
       Brett Williams, Esq., Senior Assistant Corporation Counsel

Re: Common Council Legislation
    Supporting Memorandum

Date: April 23, 2024

Sponsor(s): Balarin, Adams, Anane, Farrell, Frederick, Johnson, Keegan, and Romero

LOCAL LAW E OF 2024

TITLE
A LOCAL LAW REPEALING ARTICLE XXIII (PROHIBITION OF EVICTION WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE) OF CHAPTER 30 (CITY COURT ACT) AND ADDING A NEW PART 6 (PROHIBITION OF EVICTION WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE) TO CHAPTER 231 (HOUSING) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION PROHIBITING EVICTIONS WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE

GENERAL PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION
This local law opts the City of Albany into New York State’s Good Cause Eviction protections established in the 2024 Budget. While these protections are not as extensive as those originally granted by Local Law F of 2021, they are significant. The new state law provided that rental units with rents 245% in excess of the local fair market rent are exempt from Good Cause protection, but provided localities with the option to change this figure. This legislation sets the figure at 345% of fair market rent in the City of Albany. This local law also redefines the phrase “small landlords,” again at local option as provided by the state legislation, to maximize those covered under the protections. This law also repeals the original version of Good Cause Eviction passed by the Council in 2021 because Article 6A of the Real Property Law, enacted on April 20, 2024, has superseded and preempted the City of Albany’s original Good Cause Protections.

NECESSITY FOR LEGISLATION AND CHANGES TO EXISTING LAW
National data show that the number of households experiencing housing instability (i.e. being threatened with eviction or being evicted, filing eviction paperwork in court, becoming homeless) was significant at an average of 5 million people per year. And, in addition, these individuals and families go on to experience long-term and severe deficits to their financial security, education, health and well-being. This is particularly true for children, single parent households, victims of domestic violence, and the historically disenfranchised. For instance, landlords often do not rent to individuals with past eviction records or with debt owed to previous landlords which worsens housing instability. As a result, displaced families have few options besides poor living conditions that often have minimal access to transportation or work, which results in intergenerational trauma and poverty. Housing insecurity also prevents many tenant households from reporting building code violations, reporting discriminatory practices or other illegal actions by unscrupulous
landlords, and generally engaging in safe self-advocacy. Finally, the ever-present threat of no-cause eviction interferes in the formation of strong and stable community ties that are essential to quality of life in a city such as Albany.

Landlords across the state displace tenants in order to gain higher profits. The de facto evictions happen, among other ways, via non-renewal of their leases. These non-renewals displace individuals and families in order for owners to rent out their units to higher income tenants. This bill will prohibit landlords from evicting tenants without there being a good cause.

While the bill also prohibits nonpayment as a ground for eviction where nonpayment is caused by an unreasonable rent increase, this legislation also ensures Landlords can respond appropriately to changes in market conditions, such as tax increases and capital improvements. Raises higher than the higher amount of 10% or the inflation index will normally be prohibited, though courts shall consider situations like changes in a landlord’s property tax burden. Real Property Law Article 6-A includes many more exceptions than were contained in Local Law F of 2021. These include exemptions for owner-occupied buildings with ten or fewer units and thirty year exemptions for new properties back-dated to 2009. Due to the wording of Real Property Law Article 6A, we may not alter these exemptions.

**FISCAL IMPACT(S)**

None.
Council Member Flynn introduced the following:

ORDINANCE 1.12.24 (As Amended 5/6/2024)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 353-63 (“MAXIMUM CHARGES”) OF CHAPTER 353 (“VEHICLES FOR HIRE”) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO INCREASING THE MAXIMUM FEE TOW TRUCK OPERATORS MAY CHARGE FOR TOWS NOT REQUESTED BY THE OWNER OF THE VEHICLE TO BE TOWED

The City of Albany, in Common Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Subsection (A) of section 353-63 (“Maximum charges”) of article III (“Tow-Truck Owners and Operators) of chapter 353 (“Vehicles for Hire”) of Part II (“General Legislation”) of the Code of the City of Albany is hereby amended to read as follows:

A. All towing companies licensed pursuant to this article shall prepare a schedule of the charges for the towing and storage of motor vehicles, and such schedule shall be filed with the Chief of Police. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the maximum charge for the towing of any vehicle not in excess of 10,000 pounds, which has not been authorized by the owner or operator, shall be $100. An additional flat fee of $25 for the dollying of a vehicle may be imposed. An additional charge of $55 per hour for winching may be imposed. The maximum charge for the storage of towed motor vehicles shall be $35 per day, or each part thereof, to commence after the vehicle has been on the premises for 24 hours. The aforesaid maximum rates shall also apply to the towing of motor vehicles which have become disabled upon a street or highway in the City of Albany regardless of whether said tow may have been authorized by the owner or operator of the vehicle.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect 30 days from final passage.

APPROVED AS TO FORM THIS
26th DAY OF APRIL, 2024

_____________________________________
Corporation Counsel
To: Shaniqua Jackson, Acting City Clerk

From: Brett Williams, Senior Assistant Corporation Counsel

Re: Common Council Legislation
Supporting Memorandum

Date: January 2, 2024

Sponsor: Council Member Flynn

ORDINANCE 1.12.24 (As Amended 5/6/2024)

TITLE
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 353-63 (“MAXIMUM CHARGES”) OF CHAPTER 353 (“VEHICLES FOR HIRE”) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO INCREASING THE MAXIMUM FEE TOW TRUCK OPERATORS MAY CHARGE FOR TOWS NOT REQUESTED BY THE OWNER OF THE VEHICLE TO BE TOWED

GENERAL PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION
This ordinance raises the amount private tow truck operators may charge for tows not requested by the owner of the vehicle to be towed – e.g., tows ordered by APD for a vehicle parked illegally – from $100 to $150.

NECESSITY FOR LEGISLATION AND ANY CHANGE TO EXISTING LAW
The $100 tow operators may charge for tows in the City of Albany is among the lowest rates of any municipality in the area. APD has reported that they are, of late, having a difficult time getting tow operators to respond to APD’s calls. APD has noted situations in which its officers have had to stay on the scene of an accident for more than an hour, waiting for a tow truck to respond – a situation which ties up officers who could be better serving the public interest by attending to more pressing matters. The tow operators cite the City of Albany’s low towing fee as the reason for their decreasing response rates and times. Other area entities allow operators to charge as follows, according to information that has been shared with APD:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entity</th>
<th>Tow Charge</th>
<th>Storage/Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albany Co. Sheriff’s Dept.</td>
<td>$225</td>
<td>$74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethlehem Police Dept.</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York State Police</td>
<td>$200 (Daytime), $225 (After Hours)</td>
<td>$65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rensselaer Police Dept.</td>
<td>$125</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menands Police Dept.</td>
<td>$225</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonie Police Dept.</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUNY Police Dept.</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verizon Fleet</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This legislation will increase the current $100 fee, codified in the City Code, to $150 to bring it better in line with other local entities and should, by so doing, increase response rates and times from tow operators to more appropriate and acceptable levels.

The fee was last raised, from $75, in 2006, having been raised from $65 in 2001.

**FISCAL IMPACT**
This ordinance will increase the amount tow operators may charge for both towing and storage of vehicles towed within the City of Albany.
Council Member Johnson, with the support of Council President Ellis, introduced the following:

RESOLUTION 39.42.24R

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ANNE M. POPE TO THE CITY OF ALBANY AND RENAMING A PORTION OF SECOND AVENUE AND GRANDVIEW TERRACE IN HER HONOR

WHEREAS, Anne Pope is a longstanding pioneer for social justice, fairness, equality, and education in the Albany community; and

WHEREAS, the oldest of 14 children, Anne was raised in Shubuta, Mississippi before migrating to Albany in 1961 with her two small children in hopes of leaving behind the racism she was all too familiar with in the segregated South; and

WHEREAS, upon arriving in Albany, Anne and her children stayed with her aunt at her South End residence and although it was a warm, welcoming environment, she quickly saw that the treatment of African-Americans was only slightly different than what she had previously experienced; and

WHEREAS, one of Anne’s first memories in Albany was refusing to participate in vote buying; her Ward Leader would attempt to secure votes by offering five dollars for each vote she delivered, but still Anne would not budge; and

WHEREAS, Anne has always stressed the importance of voting and can be heard insisting that “your vote is your voice”; and

WHEREAS, Anne united with the Union Missionary Baptist Church where she served on numerous committees and ministries, with the longest position being the director of Christian Education; and

WHEREAS, during her early years in Albany, Anne got involved in the Albany NAACP, at the suggestion of Roger Foskey, and soon became the branch secretary; and

WHEREAS, after working under several Albany NAACP presidents, Anne eventually stepped into the role herself and served as president for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, under her leadership, the Albany NAACP addressed issues and initiatives such as equal access to housing, affirmative action, monitoring hiring practices in local and state government, legal justice, environmental justice, equitable education for all students, annual scholarships for college students, youth council, and the ACT-SO Achievement Program; and

WHEREAS, if Anne saw areas of injustice – whether a city, county, educational, or police matter – she and her committee members were dedicated to calling it out and addressing the issue at hand; and
WHEREAS, following her departure from serving as president of the Albany branch of the NAACP, Anne went on to become the Northeast Regional Director for the organization, overseeing the Albany, Schenectady, Troy, and Glens Falls branches for nearly 20 years until she stepped down in December 2022; and

WHEREAS, Anne also served on the Advisory Board for the Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King Lecture Series on Race and Nonviolent Social Change at Siena College, most recently as the Vice Chair, for over 20 years before stepping down in December 2022; and

WHEREAS, Anne continues to be a fierce advocate and trailblazer for the Albany community, carrying on the work of those that came before her and inspiring the next generation of civic leaders; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Albany thanks Anne Pope for her lifelong commitment to service in the Capital Region by renaming the portion of Second Avenue intersected by Grandview Terrace as well as the portion of Grandview Terrace north of Second Avenue – along the corridor where she has stood as a pillar of the community for many years – in her honor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Common Council directs that two signs shall be produced reading “Anne Pope Way” which shall be placed in consultation with the Division of Traffic Engineering.
To: Shaniqua Jackson, City Clerk

From: Juliette Geraghty, Junior Legislative Aide

Re: Common Council Legislation
Supporting Memorandum

Date: April 1, 2024

Sponsor: Council Member Johnson, with the support of Council President Ellis

RESOLUTION 39.42.24R

TITLE
A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ANNE M. POPE TO THE CITY OF ALBANY AND RENAMING A PORTION OF SECOND AVENUE AND GRANDVIEW TERRANCE IN HER HONOR

GENERAL PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION
This resolution officially recognizes the contributions to the City of Albany made by Anne Pope and directs the creation of honorary street signs at the proposed locations.

NECESSITY FOR LEGISLATION AND ANY CHANGE TO EXISTING LAW
Per Code § 323-63.2 (B), the Council shall effectuate honorary street renamings “through the adoption of a resolution of the Common Council.”

Since Ms. Pope is still living, this resolution must, per Code § 323-63.2, pass unanimously.

FISCAL IMPACT
None.

MAP OF PROPOSED HONORARY STREET SIGNS

![Map of Proposed Honorary Street Signs]
Proposed Honorary Street Name Application Form

Instructions: This application must be completed in full and submitted for review. Please complete one (1) form for each proposed street name. Please complete the application in its entirety and print. Requests must be accompanied by the $50.00 application fee.

Applicant Information

Applicant's Name: Corey Ellis
Street Address: 127 Bonsen St. City/State: Albany Zip: 12206
Telephone: (518) 339-1568 Fax: ( ) Email: cellular@albanyny.gov

Honorary Street Information

Please note, proposed honorary names will be placed under existing street names for persons or groups being honored.

Requested Honorary Name: Anne Pope Way
Suggested Location: Second + Grandview Terrace
Existing Street Name: 
Cross Street Information: From: No Cross Street
Number of Intersections: 1
Map of location for the proposed honorary street name attached: Yes / No

Honoree Information

Biography or reason for honoring the individual or group attached: Yes / No
Individual or group to be honored relevance to the proposed location (please explain): Will provide bio upon request

Applicant's Signature: [Signature] Date: 2/28/2004
Council Member Robinson introduced the following:

RESOLUTION 46.51.24R

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ELEANOR BAIRD AND RENAMING A PORTION OF SECOND STREET IN HER HONOR

WHEREAS, the City of Albany lost a great humanitarian and fierce advocate for the people when Ms. Eleanor Ingram Baird passed away on March 21, 2010; and

WHEREAS, at the age of two, Ms. Baird and her family moved to Albany from Hamlet, North Carolina in search of economic opportunity amid racial and social oppression; and

WHEREAS, she was a devout member of the Union Missionary Baptist Church from childhood until her passing, where she learned the importance of community, legacy, and self-sustainability; and

WHEREAS, educated in the Albany City School District, Ms. Baird graduated from Philip Schuyler High School at the age of 17; and

WHEREAS, shortly thereafter, she met and married Ralph E. Baird, a World War II Veteran, and from this union had five children; and

WHEREAS, Ralph and Eleanor Baird’s partnership led to them becoming pillars of their community – both were actively involved in various community and civil rights organizations, such as the NAACP, Elks, Masons, and Eastern Stars; and

WHEREAS, Eleanor Baird’s advocacy work started in the 1960s, when she was instrumental in opening a teen center in Albany’s South End, and continued when she became one of the first women of color to advance the mission of the Shriners organization, helping to organize local parades as well as toy, food, and clothing drives—despite it being an all-male organization; and

WHEREAS, by the 1980s, Ms. Baird purchased their family home on Second Street in the West Hill neighborhood of Albany and remained in this home, raising generations of children until her passing; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baird was known for having a folding chair at the top of the outside steps where the neighborhood gathered around for the love, wisdom, support, and stories she offered; and

WHEREAS, during their hardships, a single father recalled Ms. Baird allowing him and his three children to live in the upstairs apartment of her home rent free for several months; and

WHEREAS, during her professional career, she attended Manpower Training Center,
where she became proficient in secretarial duties and in the responsibilities as a stenographer, and would later accept a position with the New York State Department of Civil Service where she served for thirty years prior to retirement; and

WHEREAS, after meeting and speaking with former First Lady Hillary Clinton during her 1999 visit to Albany for her Senate campaign, Ms. Baird developed a stronger understanding of the importance of community development and justice; and

WHEREAS, in the latter years of her life, Ms. Baird continued to effect change and spread joy as an original member of Kindred Spirits, a senior community entertainment group that sang and danced at malls, schools, social events, and nursing homes; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baird was especially passionate about encouraging and inspiring young people: with United Missionary Baptist Church, she assisted with developing jobs for the youth and organizing college tours, and many children who benefited from Ms. Baird’s tutelage attended university, became entrepreneurs, and started successful families and careers of their own; and

WHEREAS, her life’s mission was to instill values and love in everyone she met, a legacy that lives on in the lives of her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Eleanor Baird is remembered by many as a beacon of hope, equality, and inspiration as well as for emphasizing the importance of having a strong sense of community; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Albany honors Eleanor Baird’s life and enduring legacy of activism by renaming the portion of Second Street intersected by North Lake Avenue and Judson Street – along the corridor where her home stood as a haven for so many people in the community – in her honor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Common Council directs that two signs shall be produced reading “Eleanor Baird Way” which shall be placed in consultation with the Division of Traffic Engineering.
To: Shaniqua Jackson, City Clerk
From: Juliette Geraghty, Junior Legislative Aide
Re: Common Council Legislation
Supporting Memorandum
Date: April 4, 2024
Sponsor: Council Member Robinson

RESOLUTION 46.51.24R

TITLE
A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ELEANOR BAIRD AND RENAMING A PORTION OF SECOND STREET IN HER HONOR

GENERAL PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION
This resolution officially recognizes the contributions to the City of Albany made by Eleanor Baird and directs the creation of honorary street signs at the proposed locations.

NECESSITY FOR LEGISLATION AND ANY CHANGE TO EXISTING LAW
Per Code § 323-63.2 (B), the Council shall effectuate honorary street renamings “through the adoption of a resolution of the Common Council.”

FISCAL IMPACT
None.

MAP OF PROPOSED HONORARY STREET SIGNS
Proposed Honorary Street Name Application Form

Instructions: This application must be completed in full and submitted for review. Please complete one (1) form for each proposed street name. Please complete the application in its entirety and print. Requests must be accompanied by the $50.00 application fee.

Applicant Information

Applicant's Name

Lorraine Frierson / Damion Walker

Street Address: 412 First Street St

City/State: Albany NY Zip: 12206 Telephone: (518)465-5841

Email: lorrainebrown524@gmail.com

Honorary Street Information

Please note, proposed honorary names will be placed under existing street names for persons or groups being honored. Requested Honorary Name: Eleanor Baird Way

Suggested Location: Second Street and Judson Streeet

Existing Street Name: Second Street

Cross Street Information: From Judson to North Lake
Number of Intersections _____2____

Map of location for the proposed honorary street name attached (x ) Yes ( ) No

Honoree Information

Biography or reason for honoring the individual or group attached (x ) Yes ( ) No

Individual or group to be honored relevance to the proposed location (please explain): ____________________________ Eleanor Baird ____________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

Applicant’s Signature Lorraine Frierson __________________ Date ____5/24/23____