

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## NOMA BID ANNOUNCES "MAMIE 'PEANUT' JOHNSON PLAZA" AS NAME COMMUNITY SELECTS FOR NEW PUBLIC SPACE IN REDESIGNED FLORIDA/NEW YORK AVENUE NE INTERSECTION

DC Council to introduce legislation to make Mamie "Peanut" Johnson Plaza the official name

October 11, 2023 (Washington, DC) — The NoMa Business Improvement District (BID) announces that "Mamie 'Peanut' Johnson Plaza" was selected by the community as the winning name for the trio of new public spaces being brought to NoMa by the reconstruction of the Florida Avenue/New York Avenue NE intersection.

Out of more than 4,300 votes cast, 40% of respondents selected this name to honor the legacy of Mamie "Peanut" Johnson, the first woman to ever pitch in the <a href="Negro League">Negro League</a> and a longtime resident of Washington, DC.

The <u>transformation of the intersection</u> is being led by the District Department of Transportation (DDOT). "We appreciate the community's continued engagement and input in both the renaming and redesign of this intersection," says Interim DDOT Director Sharon Kershbaum. "The transformation of this roadway continues on track, and when completed in December 2024, the result will be a much improved and safer experience for everyone who lives near and passes through this space."

"Thank you to the many thousands of people who took the time to vote and select Mamie 'Peanut' Johnson Plaza as the name for the trio of new public spaces coming to NoMa," said Maura Brophy, President of the NoMa BID. "These three new green spaces will be a welcome addition to the neighborhood, and the mobility and safety improvements resulting from this overall roadway reconfiguration project will benefit everyone who lives, works, visits, and passes through this area of northeast DC."

With the community vote determined, the next step in the process is the introduction of formal legislation before the DC Council to officially recognize the name for the new trio of public spaces.

The new public spaces are being designed by the award-winning landscape architecture firm, SWA Balsley. To view renderings of the future public spaces and read background on the community naming process, visit <a href="NameThisNoMaSpace.org">NameThisNoMaSpace.org</a>. For more details about the reconfiguration of the Florida Avenue/NY Avenue NE Intersection, visit floridaavene-intersection.ddot.dc.gov/.

## **About NoMa BID**

The NoMa Business Improvement District (BID) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to be a steward and champion of the neighborhood of NoMa. The NoMa BID encompasses 35 blocks just north of Union Station in Northeast Washington, DC. The NoMa BID is among the fastest-growing neighborhoods in Washington, DC, and is comprised of more than 27 million square feet of new development, with more than 13 million additional square feet of mixed used development planned. There are more than 42,000 households within a ½ mile radius of the BID, who are served by the amenities in the commercial core of NoMa. The area is supported by unparalleled public transportation access with two Red Line Metro stations, and VRE, MARC and Amtrak connections at Union Station. The "Walkscore" for the neighborhood is 92, and the neighborhood has 22 LEED-certified and Energy Star buildings. For more information, visit nomabid.org and sign up for our newsletter. Follow us on Twitter (@NoMaBID), Instagram (@noma.bid) and LinkedIn (/noma-business-improvement-district) and like us on Facebook (/NoMaBID).