

**County Executive  
of  
Howard County, Maryland**

**Executive Order: 2021- 01  
Dated: February 4, 2021  
Subject: Public Facilities and Spaces  
Commission**

**WHEREAS**, public facilities and spaces named in the past were often given names that are reflective of the values of the period in which the facility or space was named; and

**WHEREAS**, those values frequently reflected the systemic racism and biases of that time period and were oppressive to African American, indigenous Americans, and other communities of color; and

**WHEREAS**, I strongly believe that our public facilities and spaces must reflect today's values that favor and embrace inclusion and diversity; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of this, I am creating a Public Facilities and Spaces Commission to review the names of public facilities and spaces and the relevant history surrounding the namesake through the lens of whether the namesake participated in the oppression of African Americans, indigenous Americans, and other communities of color and whether the namesake contributed to the nation's history of systemic racism and similar biases.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED** that the Public Facilities and Spaces Commission is established. The duties and responsibilities of the Workgroup are as follows:

1. Review the history surrounding the namesake for public facilities and spaces to determine if the namesake participated in or encouraged the oppression of African Americans, indigenous Americans, and other individuals of color and contributed to the history of systemic racism and similar biases.
2. Report on named public facilities and spaces, including and not limited to:
  - County-owned streets;
  - County-owned buildings, including schools, libraries, and other facilities;
  - County-owned parks;
  - County neighborhoods; and
  - Statues in County-owned parks.
3. Recommend any names that should be changed, contextualized, or added for consideration to future naming of assets.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED** that the Public Facilities and Spaces Commission shall consist of the following members:

1. Ani Begay Auld
2. Denise Boston, Ph.D.
3. Bessie Bordenave
4. Towanda Brown
5. Everlene Cunningham, Ph.D.

6. Robert L. Harris, Ph.D.
7. Allison Jessing
8. Kori Jones
9. Kelly Palich
10. Moyah Panda
11. Nicole Paterson
12. Tara Simpson, Ph.D.


**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED** that Howard County Historical Society Shawn Gladden shall serve as the chair of the Public Facilities and Spaces Commission.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, the Public Facilities and Spaces Commission shall present its findings and recommendations to the County Executive no later than November 5, 2021.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that the Public Facilities and Spaces Commission shall cease to exist on November 5, 2021 and the terms of the Commission members shall expire on November 5, 2021.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I, Calvin Ball, as County Executive of Howard County, Maryland have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Howard County to be affixed this 4th day of February, 2021.



  
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Calvin Ball  
County Executive