# 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

Glen Lee

FROM: Glen Lee

**Chief Financial Officer** 

DATE: September 17, 2025

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement - Henry E. Baker Alley Designation Act of 2025

REFERENCE: Bill 26-234, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue

Analysis on September 8, 2025

### Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

## **Background**

Henry E. Baker worked in the United States Patent Office in the late 1800s and early 1900s, rising to become the second Assistant Examiner in the office. He focused on researching and publicizing the success of African American inventors. In 1894, Congressman George Washington Murray, an inventor, read "Baker's List" to Congress to further showcase African Americans' contributions to American society. By 1913, Baker had confirmed 800 patents belonging to Black inventors. Baker died on April 27, 1928.

The bill officially designates the alley located within the block bounded by Sherman Avenue, N.W., Girard Street, N.W., 11<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., and Harvard Street, N.W. as Henry E. Baker Alley.<sup>1</sup> Baker lived on Harvard Street, N.W. in the latter part of his life in the District.

## **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will fabricate and install two

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The alley is located within the block known for assessment and tax purposes as Square 2857.

The Honorable Phil Mendelson FIS: Bill 26-234, "Henry E. Baker Alley Designation Act of 2025," Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on September 8, 2025

signs, including poles, to officially designated the alley as Henry E. Baker Alley. The signs and poles will cost \$920 and DDOT can absorb the cost within its existing budgeted resources. DDOT will work with all relevant District agencies to ensure the official alley designation is established.