Series: Local Laws

Box# 050305
Local Law 17

Street name, Edward G. Baker
Square, Richmond

1975
The first public hearing today is on Introductory Number 649-A, a bill sponsored by City Councilmen Anthony Gaeta and Edward Curry, which would name a square mall area in front of Staten Island's Borough Hall, Edward G. Baker Square.

Edward G. Baker, a Municipal Court Justice from 1945 to 1953, left the bench to replace, on an interim basis, Borough President Cornelius A. Hall who had become ill. Judge Baker ran for the Borough Presidency in the election that followed and won an overwhelming victory. Thereafter, however, he was appointed a Justice of the Supreme Court, and left the Borough Presidency to resume his judicial career.

Is there anyone to speak in opposition?
Is there anyone to speak in favor?
There being no one (else) to be heard, this hearing is closed.

Active in community life, Judge Baker served as chairman of many fund-raising drives. He was awarded the Humanitarian Degree of the Humanities by Wagner College, and received other awards from various civic groups and organizations.

Judge Edward G. Baker was dedicated to providing high public service to New York.

I am pleased to sign this bill.

################
THE COUNCIL
The City of New York

Int. No. 649A November 14, 1974

Introduced by Messrs. Gaeta and Curry—read and referred to the Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs. Amended April 15, 1975. Ordered reprinted and laid over.

A LOCAL LAW

To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to street name, Edward G. Baker square, borough of Staten Island.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

1 Section 1. Section B4-90.0 of the administrative code of the city of New York is hereby amended by adding thereto a new designation to read as follows:

2 § B4-90.0 Staten Island: Change certain street name.—The following street name is hereby designated as hereinafter indicated:

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LOCAL LAWS
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
FOR THE YEAR 1975

No. 17

Introduced by Messrs. Gaeta and Curry—

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THE CITY OF NEW YORK, OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, S.S.:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a local law of The City of New York, passed by the Council on April 29, 1975, and approved by the Mayor on May 20, 1975.

THOMAS A. LENANE, First Deputy City Clerk.

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO MUNICIPAL HOME RULE LAW SECTION 27

Pursuant to the provisions of Municipal Home Rule Law Section 27, I hereby certify that the enclosed local law (Local Law 17 of 1975, Council Int. 649-A) contains the correct text and received the following vote at the meeting of the New York City Council on April 29, 1975: 41 for, none against.

Was approved by the Mayor on May 20, 1975.
Was returned to the City Clerk on May 21, 1975.

W. BERNARD RICHLAND, Corporation Counsel.
G.O., No. 20—Int. No. 649-A

Report of the Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs in Favor of
Adopting as Amended A Local Law to Amend the Administrative Code of The City
of New York, in Relation to Street Name, Edward G. Baker Square, Borough of
Staten Island.

The Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, to which was referred on
November 14, 1974 (Minutes, page 1579), the annexed amended local law respectfully

REPORTS:

This proposed law would name the square mall area situated in front of the Borough
Hall building in the intersection of Hyatt Street and Stuyvesant Place to be known as
Edward G. Baker Square.

Edward Grant Baker was born on December 28, 1906 and resided in Staten Island most
of his life. He attended Public School 30, Curtis High School, the University of South
Carolina and Fordham Law School.

He practiced law from 1932 to 1935. From 1937 to 1941 he was counsel to the Sheriff
of the Borough of Richmond; he was a Municipal Court Justice from 1945 to 1952; a
Justice of the Supreme Court from 1958 to 1969 and a delegate to the Constitutional
Convention in 1967. From 1953 to 1955 he was President of the Borough of Richmond. He was
one of the most popular men ever to run for public office in the borough.

Being active in community life, he was Chairman of the Community Chest Fund and the
Red Cross fund-raising drives. Wagner College awarded him the Humanitarian Degree
of the Humanities. Outstanding citizen awards were presented to him by B'nai Brith and the
Young Men's Christian Association.

He died on September 9, 1971, leaving his wife and two daughters surviving.

The City Planning Commission reports that the description of the new street name
conforms to the City Map.

Due to Local Law 2 of 1975, this bill was amended to conform by naming the borough
Staten Island.

Accordingly, your committee recommends its adoption, as amended.

A LOCAL LAW to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation
to street name, Edward G. Baker square, borough of Staten Island.

Be it en acted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Section B4-90.0 of the administrative code of the city of New York is hereby
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WALTER WARD, Chairman; ANTHONY R. GAETA, STANLEY SIMON,
MIRIAM FRIEDLANDER, SAMUEL HIRWITZ, FREDERICK E. SAMUEL,
HENRY J. STERN, JOHN F. GANGEMI, Committee on Parks Recreation and Cultural
Affairs, March 13, 1975.

On motion of the Vice-Chairman (Mr. Cuite), the foregoing matter was coupled as
general Order for the day. (See ROLL CALL ON GENERAL ORDERS FOR THE
DAY.)
Int. No. 649-A

Report of the Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs in Favor of Approving A Local Law to Amend the Administrative Code of The City of New York, in Relation to Street Name, Edward G. Baker Square, Borough of Staten Island.

The Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, to which was referred on November 14, 1974 (Minutes, page 1570), the annexed amended local law respectfully

REPORTS:

This proposed law would name the square mall area situated in front of the Borough Hall building in the intersection of Hyatt Street and Stuyvesant Place to be known as Edward G. Baker Square.

Edward Grant Baker was born on December 28, 1906 and resided in Staten Island most of his life. He attended Public School 30, Curtis High School, the University of South Carolina and Fordham Law School.

He practiced law from 1932 to 1935. From 1937 to 1941 he was counsel to the Sheriff of the Borough of Richmond; he was a Municipal Court Justice from 1945 to 1953; a Justice of the Supreme Court from 1958 to 1969 and a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1967. From 1953 to 1955 he was President of the Borough of Richmond. He was one of the most popular men ever to run for public office in the borough.

Being active in community life, he was Chairman of the Community Chest Fund and the Red Cross fund-raising drives. Wagner College awarded him the Humanitarian Degree of the Humanities. Outstanding citizen awards were presented to him by B'nai B'rith and the Young Men's Christian Association.

He died on September 9, 1971, leaving his wife and two daughters surviving.

The City Planning Commission reports that the description of the new street name conforms to the City Map. Due to Local Law 2 of 1975, this bill was amended to conform by naming the borough Staten Island.

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Laid over.

A.L.O. 4/5/75
THE COUNCIL
The City of New York

Int. No. 649A

November 14, 1974

Introduced by Messrs. Gaeta and Curry—read and referred to the Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs. Amended April 15, 1975. Ordered reprinted and laid over.

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To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to street name, Edward G. Baker square, borough of Staten Island.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

1 Section 1. Section B4-90.0 of the administrative code of the city of New York is hereby
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11 the borough hall building in the inter-
12 section of Hyatt street and Stuyvesant
13 place.

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THE COUNCIL
The City of New York

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THE COUNCIL
The City of New York

Int. No. 649 November 14, 1974

Introduced by Messrs. Gaeta and Curry—read and referred to the Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs.

A LOCAL LAW

To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to street name, Edward G. Baker square, borough of Richmond.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

1 Section 1. Section B4-90.0 of the administrative code of the city of New York is hereby amended by adding thereto a new designation to read as follows:

2 § B4-90.0. Richmond: Change certain street name.—The following street name is hereby designated as hereinafter indicated:

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T H E  C O U N C I L
REPORT OF LEGAL SERVICES DIVISION

COMMITTEE ON PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

INT. NO. 649

By: Messrs. Gaeta and Curry

SUBJECT:

Edward G. Baker Square, Borough of Richmond

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE:

Amends Section B4-90.0

DATA:

This proposed law would name the square mall area situated in front of the Borough Hall building in the intersection of Hyatt Street and Stuyvesant Place to be known as Edward G. Baker Square.

Edward Grant Baker was born on December 28, 1906 and resided in Staten Island most of his life. He attended Public School 30, Curtis High School, the University of South Carolina and Fordham Law School.

He practiced law from 1932 to 1935. From 1937 to 1941 he was counsel to the Sheriff of the Borough of Richmond; he was a Municipal Court Justice from 1945 to 1953; a Justice of the Supreme Court from 1958 to 1969 and a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1967. From 1953 to 1955 he was President of the Borough of Richmond. He was one of the most popular men ever to run for public office in the borough.

Being active in community life, he was Chairman of the Community Chest Fund and the Red Cross fund-raising drives. Wagner College awarded him the Humanitarian Degree of the Humanities. Outstanding citizen awards were presented to him by B'nai Brith and the Young Men's Christian Association.

He died on September 9, 1971, leaving his wife and two daughters surviving.

COMMENTS: The City Planning Commission reports that the description of the new street name conforms to the City Map.

IR:arp
3-18-75
THE COUNCIL
The City of New York

Int. No. 649 November 14, 1974

Introduced by Messrs. Gaeta and Curry—read and referred to the Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs.

A LOCAL LAW

To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to street name, Edward G. Baker square, borough of Richmond.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

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§ 2. This local law shall take effect immediately.
FOR RELEASE AT 6 A.M. WEDNESDAY

March 18, 1975

A City Council panel today (wed) will consider a bill to name a square in honor of former Staten Island Borough President and Supreme Court Justice Edward G. Baker.

Councilman Walter Ward, chairman of the Council's Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, will preside at the open meeting, starting at 10 A.M. at City Hall. The mall now has no name.

The bill (Intro. No. 649) to create Edward G. Baker Square, in front of Staten Island Borough Hall, at the intersection of Hyatt Street and Stuyvesant Place, is sponsored by Councilmen Anthony R. Gaeta and Edward V. Curry.

Baker, who died in September, 1971, served as Borough President from 1953 to 1955 and was on the Supreme Court bench in Richmond County from 1955 to 1969.

Baker was also counsel to the Richmond County Sheriff from 1936 to 1942 and a Municipal Court Justice on Staten Island from 1945 to 1953.

Another measure (Intro. No. 640) introduced by Councilman Carter Burden, would name a rectangular area at the intersection of Second Avenue and East 104th Street, in East Harlem, Blake Hobbs Park.

Hobbs, who died in May, 1973, was known as "The Music Man of East Harlem." As a music teacher, he taught youngsters, helped local artists arrange for exhibits of their work and secured bus trips and free admission to concerts for senior citizens.

Councilman Matthew J. Troy, Jr. is sponsor of a bill (Intro. No. 664) to rename a portion of 40th Avenue, Queens, as Willow Street.

The committee again will consider two measures (Intro. Nos. 238 and 603) to require installation of protective rubber mats and other safety equipment in city playgrounds.

###
16 December 1974

Mr. Anthony A. Caracciolo, Counsel
The Council of the City of New York
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

Dear Mr. Caracciolo:

Thank you for polling my interest and comments in Int. No. #649, a bill to name the small mall area adjacent to Staten Island's Borough Hall in the memory of Edward G. Baker.

I originally requested this Borough's Councilmanic delegation to introduce the legislation to designate as Edward G. Baker Square, a small triangular-shaped parcel at the intersection of Hyatt Street and Stuyvesant Place. I offer my strongest support of the legislation to memorialize a man whose reputation is repeated in superlatives and a public official who is remembered for his warmth and character.

Former Borough President Baker unselfishly stepped down from the bench of the Municipal Court in 1953 to replace, on an interim basis, the ailing Borough President, Cornelius A. Hall. Mr. Baker won a resounding victory in the Presidential election that followed, a demonstration of his popularity and zeal for service. However, he was then appointed as Justice of the Supreme Court and left office to give further service to the people of this county and of the State of New York.

I can think of few men in the history of Staten Island who deserve more the expression of recognition that can be given with the dedication of a public place to his memory.

I heartily urge the passage of this legislation.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Robert T. Connor
March 14, 1975

Hon. Robert T. Connor, President
Borough of Richmond
Borough Hall
Staten Island, N.Y. 10301

Re: Int. No. 649

Dear Mr. Borough President:

Please be advised that the Committee on Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs will have a meeting on the enclosed legislation on Thursday, March 21, 1975 at 10:00 A.M., in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, Second Floor, New York, New York.

You are invited to attend this meeting and participate therein.

Very truly yours,

Michael M. Pocost,
Assistant Counsel

mmp/amm
enclosure
December 5, 1974

Councilman Anthony Gaeta
526 Stewart Avenue
Staten Island, N.Y. 10314

Re: Int. No. 649

Dear Mr. Gaeta:

Kindly furnish this office with a biography of Edward G. Baker for our files in relation to the enclosed bill.

Thank you,

Very truly yours,

ANTHONY A. CARACCILO
Counsel
December 20, 1974

Mr. Anthony A. Caracciolo, Counsel
The City of New York
Vice-Chairman of the Council
City Hall,
New York City, N. Y. 10007

Dear Sir:

We received a communication relating to Local Law Int. No. 649.

Please be advised that the description of the new street name, (Edward G. Baker square), in the borough of Richmond, conforms to the City Map.

Sincerely,

John E. Zuccotti,
Chairman
B P Lich -
City Com.
Municipal Referee -
December 5, 1974

Hon. Robert T. Connor
President, Borough of Richmond
Borough Hall
Staten Island, N.Y. 10301

Dear Mr. Connor:

street name, Edward G. Baker square, borough of Richmond.

ca

#649
December 5, 1974

Hon. John E. Zuccotti
Chairman, City Planning Commission
2 Lafayette Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Zuccotti:

street name, Edward G. Baker square, borough of Richmond.

ca
December 5, 1974

Hon. Eugene J. Bockman
Director, Municipal Reference & Research Cent.
Municipal Building
New York, N.Y. 10007

Dear Mr. Bockman:

street name, Edward G. Baker square, borough
of Richmond.

ca
THE COUNCIL
The City of New York

Int. No. 649        November 14, 1974

Introduced by Messrs. Gaeta and Curry—read and referred to the Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs.

A LOCAL LAW

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§ 2. This local law shall take effect immediately.
Int. No. 649

By Messrs. Gaeta and Curry—

A LOCAL LAW to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to street name, Edward G. Baker square, borough of Richmond.

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By Messrs. Gaeta and Curry:

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§2. This local law shall take effect immediately.
TO: Vice-Chairman Thomas J. Cuite
FROM: Legal Services Division

This is a copy of legislation sent to Councilmen Gaeta and Curry.

The purpose of the bill is:

New designation:
Richmond: change certain street name.
Edward G. Baker Square

An abbreviated title would be:

LOCAL LAW

STREET NAME, Edward G. Baker Square, Richmond

RESOLUTION

*Resolutions are self-explanatory.
EDWARD G. BAKER

Born on December 28, 1906 in the Borough of Manhattan.

Moved to the Borough of Staten Island as an infant.

Graduated Curtis High School, attended the University of South Carolina and Fordham Law School.

Was a practicing attorney from 1932 to 1945.

Counsel to Sheriff of Richmond County from 1936 to 1942.

Justice of the Municipal Court, Richmond from 1945 to 1953

President of the Borough of Richmond from 1953 to 1955.

Justice of the N.Y.S. Supreme Court, Richmond County from 1955 to 1969.

Delegate to the Constitutional Convention, 1967

Chairman of the Community Chest Fund Raising

Chairman of the Red Cross

Active in all major charitable organizations

Received Humanitarian Degree of Humanitarians, Wagner College

Received the Brith award and

Received the YMCA award as outstanding citizen

Died September 1971