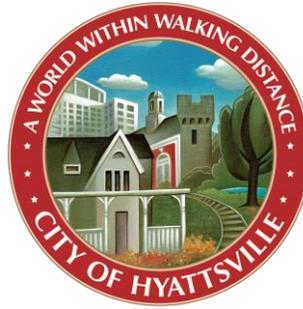


Kevin Ward  
Mayor



Tracey E. Douglas  
City Administrator

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

June 7, 2021

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**Hyattsville's Magruder Park will become David. C Driskell Community Park**

HYATTSVILLE, MD - Hyattsville City Council passed a resolution at today's June 7, 2021 meeting to proceed with legally changing the name of Magruder Park to David C. Driskell Community Park.

Dr. David C. Driskell was a former resident of Hyattsville, an esteemed artist, and distinguished professor emeritus at the University of Maryland, where the David C. Driskell Center for the Visual Arts and Culture of African Americans and the African Diaspora is also named in his honor. His work to elevate and secure a legacy for African American art and artists is globally recognized.

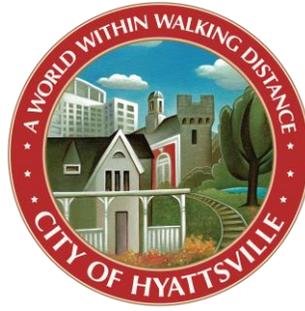
Dr. Driskell's daughter Daviryne Driskell-McNeill shared that, "the family of the late Dr. David C. Driskell greatly appreciates this recognition. Our father often depicted beautiful, nature inspired landscapes in his paintings, especially pine trees, birds and plants. This is not only an honor added to our father's legacy, but a pivotal time for African Americans in our society. It can be said with pride that the David C. Driskell Community Park in Hyattsville is going to be a place where people of all races will be welcomed."

David C. Driskell Community Park is the largest in the City of Hyattsville with amenities including a recreation center, playground, playing fields, picnic pavilions, and walking and biking trails. It was formerly named for William Pinkney Magruder, who donated the land to the City. In 2019, Hyattsville's City Council began a process of striking language from the 1927 park deed that restricted the use of the park to white residents. Council also chose to rename the park at this time, re-imagining its future as a welcoming community center.

**CITY OF HYATTSVILLE**

4310 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781 | 301-985-5000 | [www.hyattsville.org](http://www.hyattsville.org)

Kevin Ward  
Mayor



Tracey E. Douglas  
City Administrator

Park name suggestions were provided by community members and reviewed by the volunteer-led Race and Equity Task Force and Health, Wellness, and Recreation Advisory Committee before going before the Council. More details on the process to rename the park can be found at [www.hyattsville.org/namethepark](http://www.hyattsville.org/namethepark).

Newly elected Hyattsville Mayor Kevin Ward is, “encouraged to see Hyattsville’s Council and community embrace the opportunity to address historic wrongs and chart a path for a more progressive and inclusive future.” He adds that, “the City is excited to bring this renaming project to fruition. We look forward to continuing our conversations with the Driskell family to respectfully interpret Dr. Driskell’s legacy and the meaning this new name brings to the park.”

The renaming is contingent upon the state’s official recording of a quit claim deed filed by the City in 2020. In the coming months the City will begin producing informational park signage with details on Dr. Driskell’s life and an overview of the renaming process. A ribbon cutting will take place once the deed is resolved, currently anticipated for the fall of 2021.

The City of Hyattsville is a diverse and welcoming community that celebrates small town character, urban energy, and environmental stewardship. The City’s municipal government aims to provide leadership and effective services that enhance resident’s quality of life. For more information visit [www.hyattsville.org](http://www.hyattsville.org).

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