

# Ordinance No. 241-2024

By Council Member Conwell

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE  
Changing the name of Moulton/Scoutway Park in  
Ward 9 to “Shirley Chisholm Park”.

WHEREAS, Shirley Anita St. Hill Chisholm was the first African American woman elected to Congress in 1968 and, in 1972, was the first woman and African American to seek the nomination for president of the United States from one of the two major political parties; and

WHEREAS, born in Brooklyn, New York in 1924, Shirley Chisholm was the daughter of a factory worker from Guyana and a seamstress from Barbados; she graduated from Brooklyn College cum laude in 1946, where she won prizes on the debate team; professors encouraged her to consider a political career, however she replied that she faced a “double handicap” being both Black and female; and

WHEREAS, in 1964, Chisholm ran for and became the second African American in the New York State Legislature; in 1968 Chisholm won a seat in Congress, where “Fighting Shirley” introduced more than 50 pieces of legislation and championed racial and gender equality, the plight of the poor, and ending the Vietnam War; Chisholm was a co-founder of the National Women's Political Caucus in 1971, and in 1977 became the first Black woman and second woman ever to serve on the powerful House Rules Committee; and

WHEREAS, in her quest for the 1972 Democratic Party presidential nomination, Chisholm was blocked from participating in televised primary debates and, after taking legal action, was permitted to make just one speech; nevertheless, students, women, and minorities followed the “Chisholm Trail”: she entered 12 primaries and garnered 152 of the delegates’ votes (10% of the total)—despite an under-financed campaign and contentiousness from the predominantly male Congressional Black Caucus; and

WHEREAS, Chisholm retired from Congress in 1983; prior to her death in 2005 she said, “I want to be remembered as a woman ... who dared to be a catalyst of change”; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance constitutes an emergency measure providing for the usual daily operation of a municipal department; now, therefore

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That the name of Moulton/Scoutway Park is hereby changed to “Shirley Chisholm Park” and that the Director of Public Works is authorized and directed to take the necessary action to affect said designation and to post the proper signs at the playground.

Section 2. That this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

KC:rns  
2/26/2024

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**REPORT  
after Second Reading**

**By Council Member Conwell**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE**

Changing the name of Moulton/Scoutway Park in Ward 9 to “Shirley Chisholm Park”.

**READ FIRST TIME on FEBRUARY 26, 2024**  
and referred to **DIRECTORS** of Public Works,  
City Planning Commission, Finance, Law;  
**COMMITTEES** on Municipal Services and Properties,  
Finance Diversity Equity and Inclusion

**REPORTS**

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**CITY CLERK**

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**READ SECOND TIME**

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**CITY CLERK**

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**READ THIRD TIME**

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**PRESIDENT**

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**CITY CLERK**

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**APPROVED**

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**MAYOR**

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**PASSAGE RECOMMENDED BY  
COMMITTEE ON  
MUNICIPAL SERVICES  
AND PROPERTIES**

FILED WITH COMMITTEE

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**PASSAGE RECOMMENDED BY  
COMMITTEE ON  
FINANCE, DIVERSITY, EQUITY  
and INCLUSION**

FILED WITH COMMITTEE

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