

Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_

ORDINANCE:

To grant Zoning Map  
Amendment Application  
MAP2007-00102, Mayor and  
Council of Rockville,  
Applicant

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, filed application MAP2007-00102, requesting that the property located at 503 Baltimore Road, Rockville, Maryland, known as the “Thompson-Ray House”, and further identified as Lot 41 and 42, Block 7, in the subdivision known as “Rockville Park” containing 8,500 square feet of land, more or less, be placed in the Historic District; and

WHEREAS, the subject property was evaluated for historic, architectural and cultural significance to the City of Rockville, and the Historic District Commission found that the property met the criteria for local historic designation and recommended its placement in the Historic District; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council gave notice that a public hearing on said application would be held by the Mayor and Council of Rockville in the Council Chambers in Rockville on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2007, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as it may be heard, at which parties in interest and citizens would have an opportunity to be heard, which notice was published in accordance with the requirements of Article 66B of the Annotated Code of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, on the 17th day of December, 2007, the said application came on for hearing at the time and place provided for in said advertisement; and

WHEREAS, after consideration of the record on this application, the Mayor and Council has determined that the property located at 503 Baltimore Road, Rockville, Maryland, known as

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the “Thompson-Ray House” and further identified as Lots 41 and 42, Block 7, in the subdivision known as “Rockville Park” containing 8,500 square feet of land, more or less, is historically significant to the City and the County. This American Foursquare house was built in 1914 by the Thompsons and is a good example of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century American Foursquare style home. Located on two narrow lots at the east end of Rockville Park subdivision, the Thompson-Ray House is associated with the development history of the City of Rockville in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The lots were purchased as real estate investments, from platting in 1890 to the construction of the house in 1914. From 1922 to 1960, the house was owned by successive generations of the George and Alice Ray family. They participated in the early investment activity here and ultimately decided to make it their home. The Thompson and Ray families associated with this property are associated with other properties in the neighborhood previously identified as significant. The Ray and Thompson families were farmers, and illustrate the external and internal forces at work in the development of Rockville at that time. Through their long-term residence in East Rockville, association with multiple properties in East Rockville, and through inter-marriage, both families contributed to the development of East Rockville. As a typical American Foursquare, the front façade is organized with a side-hall entry. The house has balloon frame construction and a pebbledash stucco exterior finish. There is no driveway from Baltimore Road, but alley access to the garage at the rear. Approaching the house from the street, there is a broad set of stairs leading to the full-width front porch. There is a one-story rectangular bay window on the west façade. At the rear, a one-story rear porch has been fully enclosed, and a second-story rear-gable addition has been added above. The porch soffit and the

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2<sup>nd</sup> story soffit are flat and particularly wide. The band under the soffit is also very wide, and this is also echoed with the wide porch architrave. The main roof is pyramidal in form, and there is a single hipped-roof dormer on the front façade with wide soffit and band to match that of the principal roof.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council further finds and determines that it is appropriate to place the property located at 503 Baltimore Road, Rockville, Maryland, known as the “Thompson-Ray” and further identified as Lots 41-42, Block 7, in the subdivision known as “Rockville Park” containing 8,500 square feet of land, more or less, in the Historic District; and

WHEREAS, the placement of the property located at 503 Baltimore Road in the Historic District Zone will:

- a. Safeguard the heritage of the City by preserving the structure that reflects elements of the City's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history;
- b. Stabilize and improve property values in the Historic District;
- c. Foster civic beauty;
- d. Promote the use and preservation of the structure for the education and pleasure of the residents of Rockville; and
- e. Promote the general welfare of the community of the City of Rockville.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND, that the application of the Mayor and Council of Rockville, MAP2007-00102, requesting the reclassification of the property located at 503 Baltimore Road, Rockville, Maryland, known as the “Thompson-Ray House” and further identified as Lots 41-42,

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Block 7, in the subdivision known as “Rockville Park” containing 8,500 square feet of land, more or less, be, and the same is hereby, granted, and the subject property is hereby included in and made a part of the Historic District.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Mayor and Council at its meeting of .

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Claire F. Funkhouser, CMC, City Clerk