

One of Baja City's New Squares Named After Dr. Bódog Félix Beck

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ABSTRACT

This article explores the dedication of a new public square in Baja, Hungary, named in honor of Dr. Bódog Félix Beck, a distinguished native of the city known internationally as Bodog F. Beck. The initiative, spearheaded by Dr. János Körmendy-Rácz and Mihály Simics, aimed to commemorate Beck's contributions through extensive historical research and collaboration with local museums and archives. The triangular square, located near Beck's birthplace, was officially named "Dr. Bódog Félix Beck Square" on August 29, 2024, by the General Assembly of Baja City. The naming decision was influenced by the site's proximity to his birthplace and the significance of Beck's legacy. The square was inaugurated on September 6, 2024, with a ceremony featuring speeches by local figures and coverage by multiple media outlets. This commemoration underscores the role of historical figures in shaping public memory and highlights the interplay between local heritage and global recognition.

KEYWORDS: Baja city, Dr Bodog F. Beck, new square

Five years ago, Dr. János Körmendy-Rácz and Mihály Simics approached the city with the idea of commemorating Dr. Bódog Félix, a distinguished native of Baja. In collaboration with local museums, they examined historical materials, studied maps, and conducted research in local and distant archives to uncover details about Beck's life [1]. He is known in the USA as Bodog F. Beck.

The city council regulates the naming of public spaces, including those commemorating notable local figures.

At the triangular corner near Beck's birthplace — at the intersection of Attila Street and Szabadság Road — a section of land was separated and assigned its own cadastral number. Following the land registry procedures, the opportunity arose to officially name the area.

Several proposals for naming this public space were submitted. Among them was the suggestion to name it after Beck, as well as three alternative proposals. However, it became evident that the location's proximity to Beck's birthplace made the naming in his honor the most fitting. Consequently, the committee responsible for reviewing naming proposals recommended "*Dr. Bódog Félix Beck Square*" for this location.

On August 29, 2024, the General Assembly of Baja City adopted the committee's proposal, officially naming this small square *Dr. Bódog Félix Beck Square*. Hungarian name is "*Dr. Beck Félix Bódog tér*".

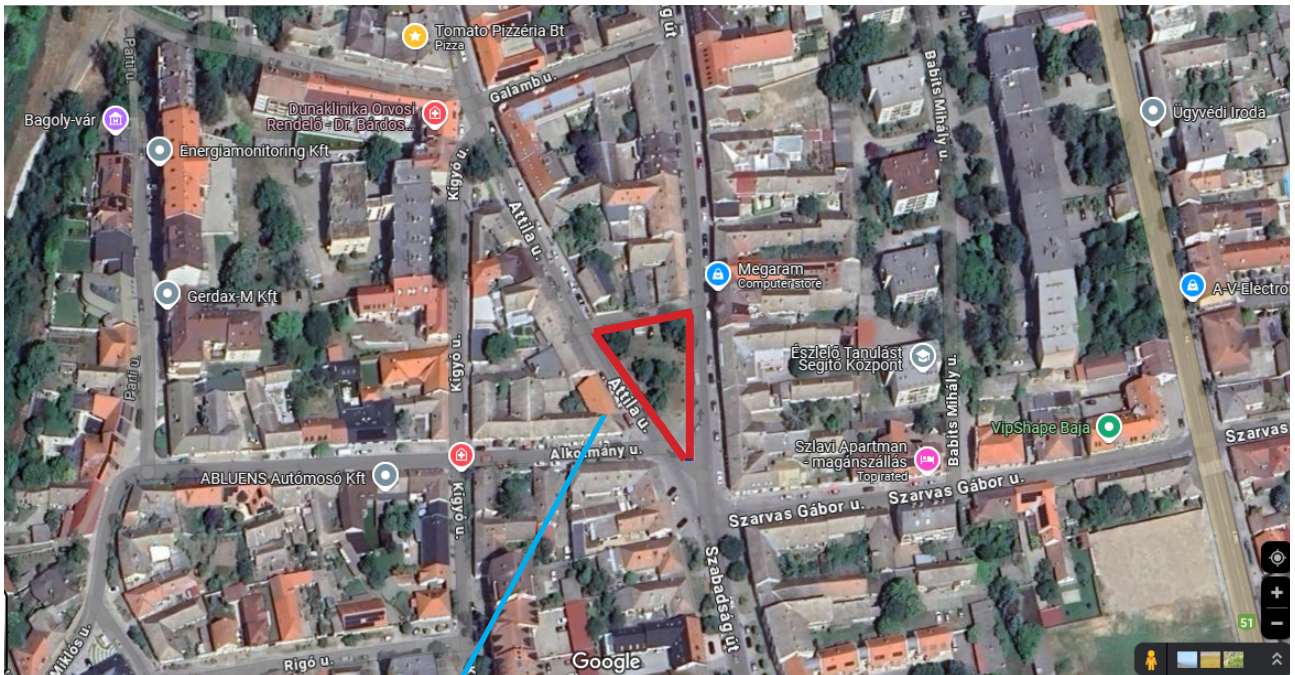
On September 6, 2024, a marble plaque bearing the name of the square was unveiled. Speeches were given by János Mayer, editor-in-chief of *Bajai Honpolgár* and author of an article about Beck, as well as Dr. János Körmendy-Rácz, president of the Hungarian Apitherapy Society. The event was covered by *Baja TV* [2]. Several media outlets reported on the event, e.g., *Baja Hangja* [3].

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Birth house of Beck

On the google map in the city of Baja you can see the new place — marked red — named “*Dr. Beck Félix Bódog tér*”. The center coordinates of the place are 46.173949796601924, 18.952267862284124.

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