

**NYC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TESTIMONY
ON INT. 277 BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON
PARKS AND RECREATION**

June 7, 2022

Good morning Chair Krishnan, Council Member Brewer, bill sponsor, and members of the Committee on Parks and Recreation. I am Ydanis Rodriguez, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Transportation. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Department for the hearing record on Introduction 227.

Intro. 227 would require DOT to post biographical and/or background information on its website related to re-naming or co-naming of any street, park, facility or structure pursuant to Administrative Code 25-102.1, within 90 days of the enactment of the local law that effected such naming.

As a Department, we install over 100 street co-naming signs each year. We are proud to partner with Council Members' offices to facilitate events celebrating these sign installations – and play a part in this wonderful practice of celebrating the people, institutions, businesses, and communities with special connections to our New York City places, in particular those New Yorkers who have dedicated themselves to their communities.

Thus as an agency involved with this process, we certainly understand and support the intent of the bill to make more information about the background behind street co-namings available to the public. However, when it comes to DOT's role, our function is to fabricate, install, and maintain the signage according to what the City Council designates for the co-naming. Our agency does not play any role in initiating, researching or presenting the background of the co-namings, and therefore should not be responsible for collecting or maintaining such information. In addition, our agency is only involved in public street co-namings, not in co-naming other facilities or structures (other than those owned by DOT), or parks.

DOT would be happy to discuss these issues further with the Council and the bill's sponsor, together with our sister agencies. And we look forward to continuing to partner with our government colleagues on co-namings, to celebrate all the people and places that make every community in New York City special. Thank you again for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.



PETER T. KING
PETE KING STRATEGIES LLC
MEMBER OF CONGRESS 1993-2021
1442 ROTH ROAD, SEAFORD, NY 11783

June 7th, 2022

New York City Council
City Hall
250 Broadway
New York, NY

Dear Honorable Council Members:

I am proud to support the Resolution proposed by Council Member Julie Menin to co-name 57th Street & 1st Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way."

Like so many New Yorkers, I was proud to be able to call Jimmy Neary my friend. Jimmy personified the Spirit of New York and the American Dream. Starting as an immigrant with nothing, he established one of Manhattan's most popular and successful dining establishments. Jimmy always had a smile and warm greeting for government, business and labor leaders and officials as well as regular New Yorkers. He was a strong supporter of charitable causes and a friend to people of all religions, races and political persuasions.

New York misses Jimmy Neary. Co-naming the street where Jimmy Neary presided so long over his fabled establishment will help ensure that the Neary legacy lives on.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter T. King".

Peter T. King
U.S. Congress (1993-2021)

From: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com
Subject: Additional messages of support for "Jimmy Neary Way"
Date: June 6, 2022 at 9:59 AM
To: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com

I would like to submit these additional notices of support for the co-naming of 57th Street and 1st Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way". I received them from friends and family via text messages. Regards, Una Neary

(1)
Please pass along my voice if possible for the noblest NYC ambassador of the century.
Cardinal Edwin O'Brien
Rome, Italy

(2)
New York City probably has more restaurants than any city in the world but there never has been and never will be one like Jimmy Neary's. When I joined the New York Giants 30 years ago it became my home away from home.

The best line I ever heard about Neary's was told to me by a couple who I sat beside one night at dinner but had never met before that evening. They actually had dined there 30 of the previous 32 nights. They told me "when we decide to stay home for dinner we go to Neary's." In one sentence, that describes Neary's like that couple, you never ate alone. Very quickly you should be sharing the evening by the people seated beside you because it was that fraternal spirit all generated on all of us by Jimmy.

My job as General Manager of the New York Giants had many victorious highs and some heartbreaking lows. In either case, I wanted to be at Neary's, either to celebrate or be consoled by Jimmy or Una or Ann Marie. I had started my career with the Baltimore Colts so the day Johnny Unitas died unexpectedly, I went right to Neary's. The day we defeated The Vikings 41-0 to go to the Super Bowl, I also went straight to Neary's. I wasn't alone, whether you dined there nearly every night or for the first time, you immediately felt connected to Jimmy Neary. For me, Jimmy was family.

I don't know how you could possibly experience New York without going to Jimmy Neary's. It was a place that encompasses everything our great city is. Nothing would have pleased him more than to have that corner named Jimmy Neary Way. He told me one night, "Ernie, I always dreamed of having a restaurant on 57th Street."

Sincerely,
Ernie Accorsi
Retired General Manager
New York Football Giants

(3)
Jimmy Neary - a legend!! Jimmy's story is truly a feel good American success story. From his birth place in Ireland to his reign over Neary's on East 57th Street, he personified the American dream.

Three generations of the Gene Bay family have many fond memories of dining at Neary's. For our grandchildren, Mr. Neary always treated them with the same respect as the adults in the room. However, no one shared the same close friendship as Gene and Jimmy.

Jimmy Neary will always be a larger than life presence on East 57th Street. In fact, even renaming the entire length of East 57th Street the "Jimmy Neary Way" would not be enough to cancel his gigantic presence in the mid-town east neighborhood.

Deidre Bay

(4)
Dear NYC Council Members,
I am writing in hope and favor of having 57th Street and 1st Avenue co-named as "Jimmy Neary Way"!

I feel it only fitting as his life and legacy are the true testimony of the American dream. One that brings hope to a city, especially during these tumultuous times, as a reminder that hard work, dedication and a joyful, appreciative heart will lead to success and oh, such wonderful stories!

Like the time my daughter was working in the cloakroom and Cardinal Timothy Dolan hands her his jacket. Or, when Mayor Bloomberg popped in for a bite with Bill and Hillary Clinton. Anybody remember Maureen O'Hara or Mary Higgins Clark, the Kennedy's and who can forget Kathie Lee Gifford?!

My point is, 57th Street's pavement has been pounded over the past 50+ years by hundreds upon thousands of people all over the world just to enjoy a meal, a drink some good laughs and to make happy memories at the most iconic Irish restaurant in the city! We're all getting old and our eyesight is fading but if you change the name to "Jimmy Neary Way" we'll never get lost.

Sincerely

Secretary,
Tracey Seebode

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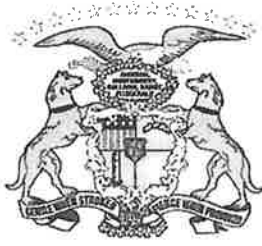
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69th Infantry Regiment
68 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10010

Jun 3 5, 2022

New York City Council
250 Broadway
New York, NY 10007

Subject: Letter of Support for 57th Street and 1st Avenue co-named as "Jimmy Neary Way"

Date of Hearing: Tuesday, June 7th beginning at 1:30pm

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing this letter to express the support of the 69th Infantry Regiment, New York for the co-naming 57th Street and 1st Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way". The 69th Infantry Regiment has a long and glorious history in New York City. Founded in 1849, the Regiment has provided a vital role for the city. From being the first military unit arriving at Ground Zero to the support the Regiment provided during the many hurricanes and other crisis which the City has faced.

For many years, Jimmy Neary has been one of our best supporters. Furthermore, he was and is still a legend in New York City.

I hope you see fit to pay tribute to this distinguished patriot and New Yorker.

Sincerely,

James P. Tierney
Colonel, U.S. Army, Retired
Regimental Colonel



The Irish Repertory Theatre provides a context for understanding the contemporary Irish-American experience through evocative works of theater, music, and dance. This mission is accomplished by staging the works of Irish and Irish-American classic and contemporary playwrights, encouraging the development of new works focused on the Irish and Irish-American experience, and producing the works of other cultures interpreted through the lens of an Irish sensibility.

June 5, 2022

New York City Council

New York NY

RE: Renaming Jimmy Neary Way

Dear Members of NYC Council:

We are writing in full support of the legislation that would re-name 57th Street and 1st Ave to the co-name of "Jimmy Neary Way". It is an apt and glorious gesture for a most revered man.

Mr. Neary's name and reputation is synonymous with East 57th Street. For over half a century, he brought honor and dignity to his neighborhood and to his city. This honor was felt by all of us who have strived to make our mark and contribute to this city of immigrants. Jimmy Neary's warmth and decency inspired us all.

To know that his name would be etched in that little corner of the rock sends the message that New York City cares and remembers their best selves.

Sincerely yours

Ciaran O'Reilly

Producing Director

Charlotte Moore

Artistic Director

Beechdale
21 Avonmore
Foxrock
Dublin D18 V2R7
Ireland

5th June 2022

Chairperson
Committee on Parks and Recreation
New York City Council
New York City Hall
New York

Dear Sir / Madam

Jimmy Neary Way

I am writing to support the proposal by Julie Menin, Council Member for District 5, to have 57th Street and 1st Avenue co-named as "Jimmy Neary Way".

Jimmy was a dear and valued friend and someone very special to me. He was my hero and I was in awe of him. A man small in stature but a giant in so many ways. His work ethic was exceptional and he epitomised what America offers by way of opportunity to immigrants. He was born for the hospitality industry and what a show he ran on 57th Street. He was an ordinary yet an extraordinary person. His smile, laughter and personality were infectious and he upheld strong values of honesty, integrity and fairness while earning absolute loyalty from customers and staff. As Mayor Bloomberg said in his eulogy at Jimmy's funeral mass in St Patrick's Cathedral last year - "New York needs more like Jimmy Neary". A fitting tribute to a humble and hard working person who made such a significant contribution to the lives of those he touched. I was honoured to know Jimmy and to have him refer to me as his friend.

It would be fitting and appropriate to honour this special person by agreeing to co-name 57th Street and 1st Avenue as "Jimmy Neary Way". He would not want the fuss but I know he would be quietly chuffed. Such recognition would be wonderful for Jimmy's family and for his many loyal friends, customers and staff.

Yours sincerely



Brian J Goggin

Former Group Chief Executive Bank of Ireland

From: Kathy Daris kathydinker@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: DISTRICT 5
Date: June 5, 2022 at 8:23 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com

I sent this, but I'm not sure it was accepted ... did not get a "received" ... I will let you know if I need you to send.
Thank you for thinking us. Sending love and miss you, Kathy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kathleen <kathydinker@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jun 5, 2022 at 5:29 PM
Subject: DISTRICT 5
To: Daris Kathleen <kathydinker@gmail.com>

**DISTRICT 5
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATION
Julie Menin**

What an excellent gesture for the NYC Council to consider having 57th Street and 1st Avenue co-named "JIMMY NEARY WAY".

Jimmy Neary was one of the dearest, kindest, most loving men we have ever been honored to know.

He loved New York almost as much as his homeland Ireland. He was proud of everything for which it stood. He always shared how New York opened her arms to him and his family.

His ONE-OF-A-KIND Irish Pub Restaurant was the very first place we would land each time we came to visit. We of course came for the amazing food, but really it was because of his smiling, warm, charming, welcoming way and lovely Irish accent .

For years we would call him on St Patrick's Day, and sing a medley of Irish tunes to him, he would join us on the other side of the phone loudly and clearly. He would first yell, "Listen, The Lennon Sisters are singing to me". It was our thrill. He was our friend.

It would be such a positive decision to forever immortalize this beautiful proud of New York citizen. We will miss his spirit forever.

**Sincerely,
The Lennon Sisters
Kathleen Lennon Daris
kathydinker@gmail.com
417.598.1500**

JOANNE DAVIS

June 4, 2022

New York City Council
New York, NY

RE: JIMMY NEARY WAY

Dear New York City Council,

I enthusiastically applaud the initiative of Council member Julie Menin to co-name 57th Street and First Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way." It is a perfect way to celebrate and honor an iconic man who enjoyed life and worked hard in our special sliver of New York City.

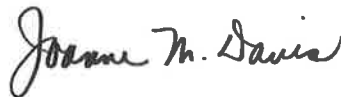
There is no one who embodies our block or corner more than Jimmy Neary. In 1967, Jimmy opened Neary's at 358 East 57th Street. So many people and places have come and gone in 55 years but Neary's still stands tall and Jimmy stood taller than most until his passing last year. He went to work almost every day and walked on the corner of 57th and First Avenue literally tens of thousands of times hosting and greeting neighbors, visitors and celebrities in his wonderful restaurant - treating all with dignity, respect, friendship and charm.

Jimmy provided an exemplary contribution to the community with his amazing work ethic - working until the day before he died at age 91. He is a role model for all.

My husband lived at 325 East 57th Street for 30 years and I still live here. I am happy to highly endorse "Jimmy Neary Way" in honor of Jimmy Neary's extraordinary life of service to our neighborhood and beyond. "Jimmy Neary Way" will give joy to all of us who knew the wonderful Jimmy Neary.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Joanne Davis

Dharmacharya Seerattan Way	173rd Street	Between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue
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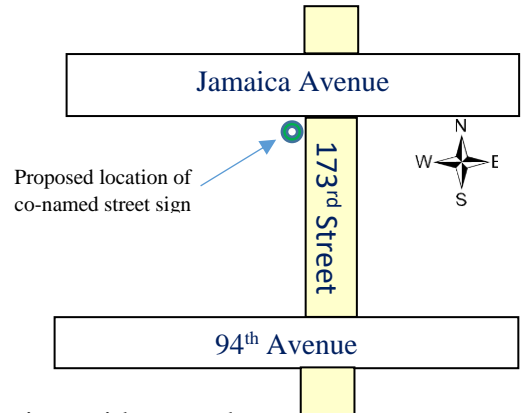
Testimony to NYC City Council Hearing on June 7, 2022 by Ashook Ramsaran

Good afternoon Chairperson & Council Members.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit this testimony in support of:

Co-naming 1 blk of 173rd St bet Jamaica Ave & 93rd Ave in honor of late Dharmacharya Seerattan

I am Ashook Ramsaran, Coordinator for the Committee (“Committee”) for Co-naming 1 block of 173rd Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue in Jamaica as a fitting tribute in honor of the late Dharmacharya Laldharry Seerattan. We are requesting your consideration for co-naming 1 block of 173rd Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue in Jamaica as a fitting tribute in honor of the late Dharmacharya Laldharry Seerattan who passed away on July 12, 2020 in Queens at the age of 87 years.



There is overwhelming support for this application among community residents and businesses, as well as notable religious organizations. He founded Shri Devi Mandir and the Global Humanitarian Foundation, both highly acclaimed by the Queens Borough President and several other officials and organizations locally and internationally. The Shri Devi Mandir is located at 92-30 173rd Street in Jamaica where we are seeking to co-name the 1 block of 173rd St bet Jamaica Ave & 93rd Ave.

As can be seen from his extensive biography, the late Dharmacharya Laldharry Seerattan was a tremendous asset to the community with a lifetime of service to spirituality, charity and contributions for community welfare and wellbeing. He was a well-respected iconic spiritual leader and a pioneering community advocate who has been recognized locally and internationally for his life-long community service.

This Committee has compiled the attached supporting documents to substantiate this application: Biography, news articles, signed petitions and letters of support from organizations, institutions and current and former elected officials.

We place high value on you the members of this Committee and look forward to your approval.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Ashook Ramsaran

Coordinator, Committee for Co-naming 1 block of 173rd Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue in honor of the late Dharmacharya Seerattan

Email: AshookRamsaran@gmail.com Cell: 1-917-519-5783

Co-naming 1 block of 173rd Street

in honor of

**The late Dharmacharya Laldharry Seerattan
(173rd Street between Jamaica Ave and 93rd Ave)**



*Prominent Spiritual Leader, Humanitarian,
Cultural Pioneer, Community Advocate,
Well Respected, High Achiever*

b. October 05, 1933 - Guyana

d. July 12, 2020 – New York, USA

Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry

Born: 1933

Lived in Jamaica, NY: 1983

37 years of community service

Deceased: 2020

- Humanitarian at Heart
- With selflessness, dedication and advocacy for the poor
- Betterment for people and community
- Exemplified the best of community service
- 1988 - Founded Shri Devi Mandir on 173rd Street - 34 years of service
- 1988 - Founded Global Humanitarian Foundation - 34 years of service
- Tremendous charitable contributions to disasters and people's urgent needs:
 - Super Storm Sandy – food and clothing assistance
 - Covid-19 – food, food baskets and clothing distribution
 - Donations to Queens Hospital Center, Cardiology Dept.
 - Donations to Long Island Jewish Hospital, Cardiology Dept.
- Partnering with local groups and organizations to serve the community
- Funding: Personal, members, well-wishers who care to make a difference
- Recognitions by:
 - Queens Borough President Melinda Katz
 - NYS Sen. James Sanders, Jr.
 - Gandhi Peace Award, New York
 - US Census Bureau for outreach services
 - Long Island Jewish Hospital, New York
 - Mandir of the Year Award
 - Federation of Hindu Mandirs
 - Visit by NYC Council Member Nantasha Williams - supportive
 - Visit by District Leader Preston Baker - supportive
 - Several local and regional letters of recognition
- Letters of Support:
 - 66 – organizations, institutions, businesses
 - 28 of those in the neighborhood of 173rd Street
- Signatures:
 - 173rd Street -2 pages (19 residents)
 - Others in the neighborhood – 7 pages (70 signatures)
- News Articles
 - Several local news articles on the enormous charity work being done
- Committee Members
 - Cross section of dedicated individuals – community, professionals, family

BIO OF THE LATE PT LALDHARRY SEERATTAN
FOUNDER OF SHRI DEVI MANDIR AND SHIV SHAKTI MANDIR
SUNRISE 10/05/2933 TO SUNSET 07/12/2020

Born on October 5th 1933 at No 56 village Corentyne Berbice Guyana. On April 30th 1983, Pt Laldharry Seerattan migrated to the United States to pursue the American dream with his family. Pt Seerattan raised his eleven children as a rice farmer. Six boys and five girls. He has provided great education to all his children including one of his son, a very well know leading priest in our community, Pt Tillackdharry Seerattan.

Pt. Seerattan was a great devotee of Durga maa, and in 1988 his dream become a reality when he founded the Shri Devi Mandir at 92-30 173rd street, Jamaica, Queens, with a Global Humanitarian Foundation to serve globally. He is supported by his family and members of the community. In 1995, Pt Laldharry Seerattan and dharam Patni built the Shiva Shakti Mandir at No 56 Village, Corentyne. The Mandir is maintained by them and each month food and clothing is shipped to the Mandir and distributed to local villages.



Pt Seerattan worked closely with many charitable organization, including the BAPS Care International where In 2005 he built a Well in a poor Village in India for the people to have pure drinking water. He has also donated to the Tsunami, Gujrat and Pakistan Earthquake, Guyana Flood, Hurricane Katrina, Haiti Earthquake, Super Storm Sandy, Guyana Missions, Sankara Eye Foundation where he sponsored 25 eye surgeries and Operation Smile Medical Mission where he sponsored 15 lip surgeries. etc.

Pt Seerattan was the religious director and founder of the Shri Devi Mandir Global Humanitarian Foundation Inc.(SDMGHFI). In November 2014, the organization built a home for a disabled mother in Bath Settlement WCB Guyana. And another home in October 2015 at No 56 Village, Corentyne. The organization also distributed food hampers for the underprivileged, purchased eyeglasses for the less fortunate, and sponsor a scholarship for a student at University of Guyana, established Computer Centers in Guyana. In 2007 & 2008 he donated funds to Queens Hospital Center to the Department of Cardiology, And to LIJ in the Division of Cardiology to purchase equipment for cardiac patients.

During the COVID-19 crises, Pt ji with his organization SDM GHFI supported Guyana with over 16,000 face masks, 2,500 hampers and over 2,000 kids meal and continuing.

It is evident the Pt. Laldharry Seerattan has offered his selfless service to the community and to international organizations. Pt Seerattan was happily married to his devoted wife for 67 congenial years. His continued legacy is assured.

His Sunrise from 10/05/1933 and set 07/12/2020. 86 years of humanitarian life.

PETITION – Residents Affiliated with SDM



Co-naming 1 block of 173rd Street in honor of the late **DHARMACHARYA LALDHARRY SEERATTAN**
 We, the undersigned residents of 173rd Street in the neighborhood of the **SHRI DEVI MANDIR** founded by the late **Dharmacharya Laldharry Seerattan**, hereby support this **PETITION** to co-name 173rd St between Jamaica Ave & 93rd Ave in honor of the late Dharmacharya Laldharry Seerattan, as fitting and well deserved tribute to his exemplary community service, ideals and his legacy

Date	Full Name	Address	Signature
12/15/21	Bhagmatie Mangaldai	92-15 173 rd ST, ¹¹⁴³³ Jamaica, NY	B. Mangaldai
12/21/21	Kamal Chela	92-16 173 rd ST, ¹¹⁴³³ Jamaica, NY	Kamal Chela
12/21/21	Kamal Ramesh	92-18 173 rd Street, ^{NY 11433} Jamaica	Kamal Ramesh
12/20/21	Ondit Harbajan	92-20 173 rd St, ¹¹⁴³³ Jamaica, NY	Ondit Harbajan
12/22/21	Darshan Ramoosford	92-24 173 rd ST, Jamaica	Darshan
12/22/21	Bobby Bhole	92-30 173 rd ST, ¹¹⁴³³ Jamaica, NY	Bobby Bhole
12/22/21	Karame Bhograttee	92-33 173 rd ST	Karame
12/23/21	Kamla Rattie Randeem	92-35 - 173 rd St	KR
1/3/22	Nozein Ameer	92-33 173 rd ST ^{1st Floor}	Nozein
1/3/22	Sarathin Lutchman	92-33-173 rd ST - 2nd Fl	Sarathin
1/3/22	Mohini Karim	92-33 173 rd ST - 2nd Fl	Mohini Karim

PETITION – Residents of 173rd Street, Jamaica



Co-naming 1 block of 173rd Street in honor of the late **DHARMACHARYA LALDHARRY SEERATTAN**
 We, the undersigned residents of 173rd Street in the neighborhood of the **SHRI DEVI MANDIR** founded by the late **Dharmacharya Laldharry Seerattan**, hereby support this **PETITION** to co-name 173rd St between Jamaica Ave & 93rd Ave in honor of the late Dharmacharya Laldharry Seerattan, as fitting and well deserved tribute to his exemplary community service, ideals and his legacy.

Date	Full Name	Address	Signature
	From Prianka Persaud	9224 173 rd street	Prianka Persaud
	Rampersaud Persaud	9224 173 rd street	Rampersaud
	J Meera A212	9219 173 rd street	J Meera
	Mohammad Younis	92-21 A 173 rd ST	Mohammad
	Deekie Ramjit	92-23 173 rd street	Deekie Ramjit
	DEVIANS RANJIT	92-23 173 rd street	Devians
	Deseree Singh	92-23 173 rd street	DS
	Roekmin Singh	92-23 173 rd Street	R.S.

Office of the President
Borough of Queens, City of New York

Citation of Honor

presented to:

Pandit Laldharry Serrattan

in grateful recognition of

his dedication to sharing and preserving his culture. Pandit Serrattan has worked tirelessly over the years and is a co-founder of Shri Devi Mandir in Jamaica, a mission that he and his son set out to achieve in Queens. An immigrant from Guyana who dedicated his entire life to the service of Hinduism, providing voluntary service in religious and cultural work in his community. Pandit Serrattan shares his love and passion for the welfare of the younger generations so that they too can be proud of their heritage and pass it on to others. I am pleased to honor this outstanding leader and cultural preservationist.

On behalf of the 2.3 million residents of Queens, "The World's Borough", we congratulate you on receiving this citation. The Office of the Queens Borough President is proud to join with friends, colleagues and family to say thank you and I wish you the best on your special day. Happy, happy birthday and thank you for your service.



October 9, 2010

Melinda Katz
President of the Borough of Queens

United States
**Census
2010**

IT'S IN OUR HANDS

*Thank
You*

FOR HELPING
TO PAINT THE
NEW PORTRAIT
OF AMERICA



THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU HEREBY RECOGNIZES

Shri Devi Mandir

as a valued partner and offers appreciation for your support
in raising awareness of and inspiring participation in the 2010 Census.

Your efforts to help achieve a complete and accurate
census count have made a lasting impact on the nation.

Dr. Robert M. Groves
Director, U.S. Census Bureau

Hon. I. Daneek Miller
NYC Council Member, 27th Council District
172-12 Linden Blvd, Jamaica NY 11434

Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 173rd street
In honor of the late Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan

Dear Council Member Miller,

Greetings! Members of our organization reside in your constituency and fully supported you in your election and re-election efforts. We write to thank you for all the great service you have rendered in the constituency and more specifically benefiting members of our organization.

We are seeking your assistance in the renaming of a block after an outstanding member of your constituency. Organization fully supports the application to co-name 1 block of 173rd Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue, in the neighborhood of the SHRI DEVI MANDIR founded by the late Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan, as a fitting and well deserved tribute to his exemplary, lifelong community service, his ideals and his legacy.

Pandit Laldharry Seerattan lived in Queens, New York from 1983 when he migrated from Guyana until he passed away on July 12, 2020 in Queens at the age of 87. Pandit Seerattan was born on October 5, 1933 in Guyana of Indian indentured parents, grew up as a hardworking rice farmer. He migrated to the USA in 1983 and settled in Queens, New York. He was the founder of the Shri Devi Mandir since 1988, the Shiv Shakti Mandir in Guyana in 1995 and Shri Devi Mandir Global Humanitarian Foundation Inc since 2014. The organization performed yeoman community service in the area where he lived. In particular, under his leadership, the organization dispensed charitable assistance to many on a routine basis and also attended to the needs of the disadvantaged on a daily basis.

He was a prominent spiritual leader, cultural pioneer, humanitarian worker, community activist and icon, a well respected man of humility and human dignity with remarkable achievements. His pioneering community role was enormously visionary and impactful on the lives of people and the community. For his outstanding community and humanitarian activities, he was recognized by the Queens Borough President, the President of Guyana, as well as many political and community leaders in Queens-

Brooklyn region. He was truly a wonderful human being, an honorable man and an outstanding asset in our community.

Pandit Laldharry Seerattan, with the support of his family, embraced and supported his community whole heartedly. He is well known for his relentless and selfless service in the promotion and preservation of Indian culture and humanitarianism in the Queens-Brooklyn communities and globally. He was an outstanding community stalwart and humanitarian at heart, giving and helpful, yet humble. He lived by example, an outstanding and highly respected mentor to so many. He was an ardent cultural activist, a well-recognized cornerstone and an invaluable asset to our community.

We fully support the co-naming of 1 block of 173rd street honoring the legacy of Pandit Laldharry Seerattan for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people.

Sincerely,

**BALRAM
RAMBRICH**

Digitally signed by
BALRAM
RAMBRICH
Date: 2021.11.10
19:36:47 -05'00'

Balram Rambrich, Secretary 347 610 2173

Copy: Yvonne Reddick, District Manager, Community Board #12, Jamaica NY 11432

PT. RAMLALL, B.A., DIP, ED.
DHARMACHARYA



ARYA SPIRITUAL CENTER, INC.

**85-61 144th Street Briarwood, NY 11435
(718) 523-1413**

This letter is on behalf of the executive leadership of the Arya Spiritual Center, Inc. in support of Mr. Ashook K. Ramsaran's effort to co-name one block of 173rd Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue. We would also like to thank you for this tribute in honoring Dharmacharya Pt. Laldharry Seerattan and hope the community will support this endeavour.

Sincerely,
Naro Balli
Vice President – Arya Spiritual Center

KRINVANTO VISHVAM ARYAM – MAKE THE UNIVERSE NOBLE

QUEENS BRANCH OF THE BHUVANESHWAR MANDIR, INC.

86-06 101st Avenue ♦ Ozone Park, NY 11416

Shri Prakash Gossai, *Founder (1953-2009)* ♦ Acharya Arun Gossai, *Spiritual Leader*

Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 173rd street

In honor of the late Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan

Dear Council Member Miller,

We fully support the application to co-name 1 block of 173rd Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue, in the neighborhood of the SHRI DEVI MANDIR founded by the late Dharamacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan, as a fitting and well deserved tribute to his exemplary, lifelong community service, his ideals and his legacy.

Pandit Laldharry Seerattan lived in Queens, New York from 1983 when he migrated from Guyana until he passed away on July 12, 2020 in Queens at the age of 87. Pandit Seerattan was born on October 5, 1933 in Guyana of Indian indentured parents, grew up as a hardworking rice farmer. He migrated to the USA in 1983 and settled in Queens, New York. He was the founder of the Shri Devi Mandir since 1988, the Shiv Shakti Mandir in Guyana in 1995 and Shri Devi Mandir Global Humanitarian Foundation Inc since 2014.

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Pandit Laldharry Seerattan, with the support of his family, embraced and supported his community whole heartedly. He is well known for his relentless and selfless service in the promotion and preservation of Indian culture and humanitarianism in the Queens-Brooklyn communities and globally. He was an outstanding community stalwart and humanitarian at heart, giving and helpful, yet humble. He lived by example, an outstanding and highly respected mentor to so many. He was an ardent cultural activist, a well-recognized cornerstone and an invaluable asset to our community.

We fully support the co-naming of 1 block of 173rd street honoring the legacy of Pandit Laldharry Seerattan for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people.

Sincerely,


Acharya Arun Gossai

Spiritual Leader/Trustee 718-340-8940

"Let noble thoughts prevail"

SHRI KRISHNA MANDIR CULTURAL CENTER

124-08 Jamaica Avenue, R.H. NY 11419

Tel - 917 847 4501

December 6th 2021

Hon. Nantasha Williams
NYC Council Member, 27th Council District
172-12 Linden Blvd, Jamaica NY 11434

**Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 173rd street
In honor of the late Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan**

Dear Council Member Williams,

We fully support the application to co-name 1 block of 173rd Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue, in the neighborhood of the SHRI DEVI MANDIR founded by the late Dharamacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan, as a fitting and well deserved tribute to his exemplary, lifelong community service, his ideals and his legacy.

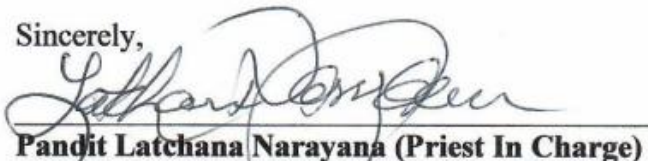
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In view of the foregoing, we again express our full support for the co-naming of 1 block of 173rd street honoring the legacy of Pandit Laldharry Seerattan for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people.

Sincerely,



Pandit Latchana Narayana (Priest In Charge)

Copy: Yvonne Reddick, District Manager, Community Board #12, Jamaica NY 11432



Saving Hands Emergency Aid, Inc.
P.O. Box 20143, Floral Park, NY 11002
Telephone: (929)888-7432
E-Mail: shea@sheacharity.org
Web: www.sheacharity.org

December 6, 2021

Nantasha Williams
NYC Council Member
27th Council District
172-12 Linden Blvd.,
Jamaica NY 11434

Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 173rd street
In honor of the late Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan

Dear Council Member Williams:

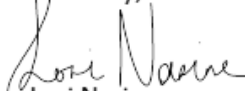
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Pandit Laldharry Seerattan lived in Queens, New York from 1983 when he migrated from Guyana until he passed away on July 12, 2020, in Queens at the age of 87. Pandit Seerattan was born on October 5, 1933, in Guyana of Indian indentured parents, grew up as a hardworking rice farmer. He migrated to the USA in 1983 and settled in Queens, New York. He was the founder of the Shri Devi Mandir since 1988, the Shiv Shakti Mandir in Guyana in 1995 and Shri Devi Mandir Global Humanitarian Foundation Inc since 2014.

As the Founder and President of Saving Hands Emergency Aid, Inc., I have had the utmost privilege of meeting and collaborating with Pandit Seerattan on multiple humanitarian efforts. Pandit Seerattan, even in his senior years, showed deep compassion and humanity for the community he served; not only in speech, but in physical acts of charity by providing meals for needy, housing for the homeless, aiding in disaster relief, and his lifesaving endeavors, just to name a few. He was a genuine pillar in his community and is well deserving of this honor in his memory.

We hope that you will find it fitting to co-naming 173 Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue, in honor of Pandit Laldharry Seerattan.

Sincerely,


Lori Narine
President

cc: Yvonne Reddick, District Manager, Community Board #12, Jamaica NY 11432

Saving Hands Emergency Aid, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Tax identification number is 47-5525774

Dr. VISHNU BISRAM
Journalist, Newspaper Columnist, Pollster, Community Advocate
87-45 95th Street, Woodhaven, NY 11421

November 17, 2021

Hon. I. Daneek Miller
NYC Council Member, 27th Council District
172-12 Linden Blvd, Jamaica NY 11434

Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 173rd street
In honor of the late Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan

Dear Council Member Miller,

I write to pen my support for the application to co-name 1 block of 173rd Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue, in the neighborhood of the SHRI DEVI MANDIR founded by the late Dharamacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan, as a fitting and well deserved tribute to his exemplary, lifelong community service, his ideals and his legacy.

I know the gentleman and priest personally since the late 1980s having interviewed him several times for reports and columns in our community newspaper. I also wrote about his death last year.

Pandit Laldharry Seerattan lived in Queens, New York from 1983 when he migrated from Guyana until he passed away on July 12, 2020 in Queens at the age of 87. Pandit Seerattan was born on October 5, 1933 in Guyana of Indian indentured parents, grew up as a hardworking rice farmer. He migrated to the USA in 1983 and settled in Queens, New York. He was the founder of the Shri Devi Mandir since 1988, the Shiv Shakti Mandir in Guyana in 1995 and Shri Devi Mandir Global Humanitarian Foundation Inc since 2014.

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I fully support the co-naming of 1 block of 173rd street honoring the legacy of Pandit Laldharry Seerattan for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people.

Sincerely,

Vishnu Biaram

Dr. Vishnu Bisram
Asst. Editor, West Indian News

Copy: Yvonne Reddick, District Manager, Community Board #12, Jamaica NY 11432



guyanatrystatealliance@gmail.com

GTSA

"The Hampshire Arms"
601 E 19th Street, Suite 4-O
Brooklyn, NY 11226
Telephone: 917.541.4101

December 02, 2021

Hon. Natasha Williams
NYC Council Member, 27th Council District
172-12 Linden Blvd, Jamaica NY 11434

**Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 173rd street
In honor of the late Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan**

Dear Council Member Natasha Williams,

We fully support the application to co-name 1 block of 173rd Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue, in the neighborhood of the SHRI DEVI MANDIR founded by the late Dharamacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan, as a fitting and well deserved tribute to his exemplary, lifelong community service, his ideals and his legacy.

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In view of the foregoing, we again express our full support the co-naming of 1 block of 173rd street

Honoring the legacy of Pandit Laldharry Seerattan for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people.

Sincerely,
Patricia Jordon-Langford
Patricia Jordon-Langford
President
Guyana Tri-State Alliance, Inc.

131-17 Hillside Avenue

Richmond Hill. New York 11418

Email: Interfaithcouncilforcommunity@gmail.com

Phone: 917-215-4312

November 22, 2021

Hon. I. Daneek Miller
NYC Council Member, 27th Council District
172-12 Linden Blvd, Jamaica NY 11434

**Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 173rd street
In honor of the late Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan**

Dear Council Member Miller,

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We fully support the co-naming of 1 block of 173rd street honoring the legacy of Pandit Laldharry Seerattan for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people.

Sincerely,



Mohamed Hack
Founder ICCD

Copy: Yvonne Reddick, District Manager, Community Board #12, Jamaica NY 11432

पंडित रूप सुखराम

654 HACIENDA CIRCLE
KISSIMMEE
FLORIDA 34741

Phone: 407-285-6007
Website: www.myhu.org
E-mail: panditroop@myhu.org



PANDIT ROOP SUKHRAM

Hindu University
Online Vedic Studies

"Vidyayaa Amritam-ashnute"
Attain Immortality Through Education.

01.10.2022

Hon. I. Daneek Miller
NYC Council Member, 27th Council District
172-12 Linden Blvd, Jamaica NY 11434

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In honor of the late Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan**

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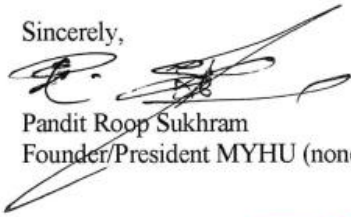
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We fully support the co-naming of 1 block of 173rd street honoring the legacy of Pandit Laldharry Seerattan for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people. If you have any question, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

 (पंडित रूप सुखराम)
Pandit Roop Sukhram
Founder/President MYHU (none for profit organization 501 c3)

"Greatness is born from a single act of Selflessness."

MAHATMA GANDHI SATSANG SOCIETY INC.

196-15 91ST Ave, Hollis NY 11423

TEL: 646-465-3507

January 4th 2022

Hon. Natasha Williams
NYC Council Member, 27th Council District
172-12 Linden Blvd, Jamaica NY 11434

**Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 173rd street
In honor of the late Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan**

Dear Council Member Williams,

We fully support the application to co-name 1 block of 173rd Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue, in the neighborhood of the SHRI DEVI MANDIR founded by the late Dharamacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan, as a fitting and well deserved tribute to his exemplary, lifelong community service, his ideals and his legacy.

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In view of the foregoing, we again express our full support the co-naming of 1 block of 173rd street honoring the legacy of Pandit Laldharry Seerattan for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people.

Sincerely,



Seeta Omatat (President)

Copy: Yvonne Reddick, District Manager, Community Board #12, Jamaica NY 11432



Icahn
School of
Medicine at
Mount
Sinai

MOUNT SINAI SERVICES

NYC H+H / Queens

82-68 164th Street, Jamaica, N.Y. 11432

November 19th, 2021

Hon. I. Daneek Miller
NYC Council Member, 27th Council District
172-12 Linden Blvd, Jamaica NY 11434

**Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 173rd street
In honor of the late Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan**

Dear Council Member Miller,

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He was a stalwart in his community and a philosopher of Sanatan Dharm, the great Pandit Laldharry Seerattan possessed noble qualities. Laldharry Seerattan dedicated his time to many charitable organizations. In the early 1990's, he donated cardiac equipment to Queens General Hospital where he was given an award for his contribution to healthcare. He made contributions to international temples, natural disaster relief, Cancer and Cardiology Research; he sponsored 25 eye surgeries and 15 cleft lip surgeries.



Icahn
School of
Medicine at
Mount
Sinai

MOUNT SINAI SERVICES

NYC H+H / Queens

82-68 164th Street, Jamaica, N.Y. 11432

In summary, we fully support the co-naming of 1 block of 173rd street honoring the legacy of Pandit Laldharry Seerattan for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people.

Sincerely,

Adesh Anthony Ramdass, MD, FACP.
Attending Physician, Department of Medicine
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Associate Clerkship Director
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, NYC H+H| Queens
Tel: (718) 883-4296
Fax: (718) 883-6124
Email : ramdassa@nychhc.org

Adesh Ramdass, MD.
Internal Medicine
NYS# 294543
NPI: 1851787832

Copy: Yvonne Reddick, District Manager, Community Board #12, Jamaica NY 11432



New Haven Ministries

A Compassionate Heart for People

130-05 101 Ave Richmond Hill, NY 11419 Ph: 718-850-1300 Sunday Worship 10:00am www.newhavenministries.org

Hon. Natasha Williams
NYC Council Member, 27th Council District
172-12 Linden Blvd, Jamaica NY 11434

**Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 173rd street
In honor of the late Dharmacharya Pandit Laldharry Seerattan**

Dear Council Member Williams,

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We fully support the co-naming of 1 block of 173rd street honoring the legacy of Pandit Laldharry Seerattan for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people.

Sincerely,


Pastor Matthew Singh

[Rev. Dr. Matthew Singh](#)
Senior Pastor, Founder & Chairman of New Haven Ministries

Richard S. David
District Leader, NYS Assembly District 31

November 18, 2021

Honorable I. Daneek Miller
NYC Council Member, 27th Council District
172-12 Linden Blvd, Jamaica NY 11434

Re: To support the co-naming of 1 block on 173rd street in honor of the late Pandit Laldharry Seerattan

Dear Council Member Miller,

I write to you in support of the application to co-name 173rd Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93rd Avenue in Jamaica in honor of the late Pandit Laldharry Seerattan as a fitting and well-deserved tribute to his exemplary community service and his legacy which is an inspiration to many New Yorkers.

Pandit Laldharry Seerattan lived in Queens, New York from 1983 when he migrated from Guyana until he passed away on July 12, 2020 at the age of 87. Pandit Seerattan was born on October 5, 1933 in Guyana to newly-freed Indian indentured parents, and he grew up as a hardworking rice farmer. He migrated to the United States in 1983 and settled in Queens, New York. He founded the Shri Devi Mandir in 1988 in Jamaica, Queens, followed by the Shiv Shakti Mandir in Guyana in 1995 and Shri Devi Mandir Global Humanitarian Foundation in 2014.

The location on 173rd Street between Jamaica Avenue and 93 Street is ideal because it is where the Shri Devi Mandir is located, and it remains Pandit Laldharry Seerattan's most visible accomplishment in our great City.

He was a prominent spiritual leader, cultural pioneer, humanitarian worker, community activist and icon, a well respected man of humility and human dignity with remarkable achievements. His pioneering community role was enormously visionary and impactful on the lives of people and the community. For his outstanding community and humanitarian activities, he was recognized by the President of Guyana, the Queens Borough President, as well as other political and community leaders in New York.

Pandit Laldharry Seerattan, with the support of his family, embraced and supported his community whole heartedly. He is well known for his relentless and selfless service in the promotion and preservation of Indian culture and humanitarianism in the Queens-Brooklyn communities and globally. He was an outstanding community stalwart and humanitarian at heart, giving and helpful, yet humble. He lived by example, an outstanding and highly respected mentor to so many. He was an ardent cultural activist, a well-recognized cornerstone and an invaluable asset to our community.

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Sincerely,

Richard S. David

District Leader, NYS Assembly District 31
Cell: 917-310-5148 richdavidnyc@gmail.com

Cc: Yvonne Reddick, District Manager, Community Board #12, Jamaica NY 11432

Don Capalbi Way	136th Street	Between 57th Road and 58th Avenue
-----------------	--------------	-----------------------------------

Testimony to NYC City Council Hearing on June 7, 2022 by Ashook Ramsaran

Good afternoon Chairperson & Council Members.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit this testimony in support of:

Co-naming 1 block of 136th St between 57th Rd & 58th Ave in honor of the late Don Capalbi.

I am Ashook Ramsaran, Coordinator for the Committee (“Committee”) for Co-naming 1 block of 136th Street between 57th Road & 58th Avenue in Flushing in honor of the late Don Capalbi. The “Committee” comprises: Queensboro Hill Civic Association; NY Presbyterian Hospital Queens Community Advisory Council; Queens Historical Society; Queens Civic Congress; Queens College; Queens Botanical Gardens; Representatives of US Congress Member Grace Meng.

After a series of hearings, testimonies and submittal of supporting documentation by our Committee, Community Board #7 approved the application on April 12, 2022 to co-name 1 block of 136th Street between 57th Road and 58th Avenue as a fitting tribute in honor of the late Don Capalbi who passed away on December 02, 2018 in Queens, New York, at the age of 73 years. Don Capalbi lived on this street up to the time of his passing and was a prominent president of Queensboro Hill Civic Association representing this neighborhood.

Don Capalbi contributed selflessly with long, outstanding service to this community as he was a long time member of Community Board #7 – among his membership in several other organizations.

There is overwhelming support for this application among community residents and civic associations, as well as and current and former elected officials who have expressed high regard and admiration for Don Capalbi and his lifelong community service. This Committee has compiled supporting documents to substantiate this application: Biography, news articles, signed petitions and letters of support from organizations, institutions and current and former elected officials.

Don Capalbi was President of the Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic Association, member of CB #7, a long-time member of New York Presbyterian Queens (NYP/Q) Community Advisory Council, Flushing Chamber of Commerce and of many other community organizations in the Flushing area. He served as a Community Liaison for US Congress Member Grace Meng and served in the same capacity when Meng was a member of the NY State Assembly.

“He also fought tremendously for his neighborhood, dedicating countless hours to preserving and improving the quality of life in his community. He was also a great human being; a wonderful and special person who was selfless and full of life, and one of the kindest, friendliest and gentlest people I’ve known. His unwavering commitment to our constituents, and his many efforts to make our district a better place for all who live and work here. He will be sorely missed but the legacy of his service, and the contributions he made to help others, will never be forgotten.” *US Congr Member Grace Meng*

Attached are letters of support and biography of the late Don Capalbi which attest to his many contributions to his neighborhood and community.

We place high value of your positions as members of this Committee and look forward to your approval.

Respectfully,



Ashook Ramsaran

Coordinator, Coordinator for the Committee (“Committee”) for Co-naming 1 block of 136th Street between 57th Road & 58th Avenue in Flushing in honor of the late Don Capalbi.

Email: AshookRamsaran@gmail.com Cell: 1-917-519-5783

**CO-NAMING 1 BLOCK of 136th Street
Between 57th Road & 58th Avenue
In HONOR of the late DON CAPALBI**



*Prominent Civic Advocate & Leader
Dedication to Community Service*

b. 1945 – New York, USA

d. 2018 – New York, USA



DISTRICT OFFICE
135-27 38TH AVENUE, SUITE 388
FLUSHING, NY 11354
TEL: (718) 888-8747
FAX: (718) 888-0331

CITY HALL OFFICE
250 BROADWAY, SUITE 1808
NEW YORK, NY 10007
District20@council.nyc.gov

THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
SANDRA UNG
COUNCIL MEMBER, 20TH DISTRICT, QUEENS

CHAIR
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

COMMITTEES
EDUCATION
GENERAL WELFARE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES,
AND INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS
PARKS AND RECREATION
SMALL BUSINESS
IMMIGRATION

SUB-COMMITTEES
LANDMARKS, PUBLIC SITINGS,
AND DISPOSITIONS

April 29th, 2022

RE: Memorandum in Support of Don Capalbi Way Co-Naming at 136th Street Between 57th Road & 58th Avenue

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing to voice my strong support for the Co-Naming of 136th Street between 57th Road and 58th Avenue in Queens, New York (Community Board 7).

Don Capalbi was a longtime civic activist community leader who passed away on December 2nd, 2018 at the age of 73 years old. Among his many contributions to the community, Don served as the President of the Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic Association. He also served as a member of the New York Presbyterian Community Advisory Council and the Flushing Chamber of Commerce, 109th Precinct Community Council, Kissena Corridor Park Conservancy, among many other organizations.

In his role as a Community Liaison in the office of Congressman Grace Meng and Assemblymember Grace Meng, Don worked tirelessly to provide assistance to community members with issues in front of city agencies.

Don's extensive community activism will have an enduring and lasting impact on our community.

This street was chosen because Don Capalbi lived on 136th Street up to the time of his passing. The Co-Naming is supported by Community Board 7, and a letter of support was provided. A biography packet has been prepared and attached.

Sincerely,

Sandra Ung, Councilmember of District 20



REP. GRACE MENG
WASHINGTON, D.C.

March 17, 2022

Hon. Sandra Ung
NYC Council Member, 20th Council District
135-27 38 Ave, Flushing, NY 11354

Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 136th Street between 57th Road & 58th Avenue
In honor of the late Don Capalbi

Dear Council Member Ung,

We fully support the application to co-name co-naming 1 block of 136th Street between 57th Road and 58th Avenue as a fitting tribute in honor of the late Don Capalbi who passed away on December 02, 2018 in Queens, New York, at the age of 73 years. Don Capalbi lived on this street up to the time of his passing and was a prominent president of Queensboro Hill Civic Association representing this neighborhood, as a fitting and well deserved tribute to his exemplary, lifelong community service, his ideals and his legacy.

We join with many others in our overwhelming support for this application among community residents and civic associations, as well as and current and former elected officials who have expressed high regard and admiration for Don Capalbi and his lifelong community service. Don Capalbi worked tirelessly and selflessly for the improvement of several community services and mentored many for to do the same.

Don Capalbi was President of the Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic Association, a long-time member of New York Presbyterian Queens (NYP/Q) Community Advisory Council, Flushing Chamber of Commerce and of many other community organizations in the Flushing area. He served as a Community Liaison for US Congress Member Grace Meng and served in the same capacity when Meng was a member of the NY State Assembly.

We fully support the co-naming of 1 block of 136th Street honoring the life, legacy and contributions of Don Capalbi for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people.

Sincerely,

Grace Meng
Member of Congress

Copy: Ms. Marilyn McAndrews, District Manager, NYC Community Board #7,
Flushing NY 11354



Thomas J. Santucci, *Chairperson*
Howard Graf, *Vice Chairperson*
Nash Roe, *Secretary*
Fran Biderman-Gross, *Associate Secretary*
Patrick Yu, *Treasurer*
Richard Dzwlewicz, *Associate Treasurer*
Mayra S. DiRico, *Immediate Past Chairperson*

Thomas J. Grech, *President & Chief Executive Officer*

March 23, 2022

Hon. Sandra Ung
NYC Council Member, 20th Council District
135-27 38 Ave, Flushing, NY 11354

**Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 136th Street between 57th Road & 58th Avenue
In honor of the late Don Capalbi**

Dear Council Member Ung,

We fully support the application to co-name co-naming 1 block of 136th Street between 57th Road and 58th Avenue as a fitting tribute in honor of the late Don Capalbi who passed away on December 02, 2018 in Queens, New York, at the age of 73 years. Don Capalbi lived on this street up to the time of his passing and was a prominent president of Queensboro Hill Civic Association representing this neighborhood, as a fitting and well deserved tribute to his exemplary, lifelong community service, his ideals and his legacy.

We join with many others in our overwhelming support for this application among community residents and civic associations, as well as and current and former elected officials who have expressed high regard and admiration for Don Capalbi and his lifelong community service. Don Capalbi worked tirelessly and selflessly for the improvement of several community services and mentored many for to do the same.

Don Capalbi was President of the Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic Association, a long-time member of New York Presbyterian Queens (NYP/Q) Community Advisory Council, Flushing Chamber of Commerce and of many other community organizations in the Flushing area. He served as a Community Liaison for US Congress Member Grace Meng and served in the same capacity when Meng was a member of the NY State Assembly.

"He also fought tremendously for his neighborhood, dedicating countless hours to preserving and improving the quality of life in his community. He was also a great human being; a wonderful and special person who was selfless and full of life, and one of the kindest, friendliest and gentlest people I've known. His unwavering commitment to our constituents, and his many efforts to make our district a better place for all who live and work here. He will be sorely missed but the legacy of his service, and the contributions he made to help others, will never be forgotten." US Congress Member Grace Meng

We fully support the co-naming of 1 block of 136th Street honoring the life, legacy and contributions of Don Capalbi for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Thomas J. Grech'.

Thomas J. Grech, President & CEO

CC: Ms. Marilyn McAndrews, District Manager, NYC Community Board #7, Flushing NY 11354

Central Queens Historical Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 13588
Kew Gardens, New York 11415

March 20, 2022

Hon. Sandra Ung
NYC Council Member, 20th Council District
135-27 38 Ave, Flushing, NY 11354

**Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 136th St between 57th Rd & 58th Ave
In honor of the late Don Capalbi**

I met Don Capalbi on numerous occasions as a legislative and civic representative. He was a concerned community leader, not only caring for the Queensboro Hill Neighborhood Association but also the numerous areas we call Queens.

He was very supportive of police activities, zoning rights, enriched school curriculums and legislation expanding the funding of senior centers and caring for Medicare and Medicaid participants.

A very bright and wonderful person who would be strict about integrity.

I am in support of the street co-naming proposal honoring Don Capalbi.

Jeff Gottlieb
President
Central Queens Historical, Association, Inc.

MID--QUEENS COMMUNITY COUNCIL, Inc.

P. O. Box 150388
Kew Gardens, N. Y. 11415

April 14, 2022

Ashook Ramsaran
Committee Coordinator
Co-naming of Street in Honor of late Don Capalbi

Subject: Support for street renaming in honor of late Don Capalbi

After a discussion of the merits of the case, the **Mid-Queens Community Council, Inc.** voted unanimously on April 11, 2022, to support the co-naming of a street in Flushing after civic leader Don Capalbi.

Jeff Gottlieb

Cc: Stan Norwalk



Where people, plants, and cultures meet.

March 30, 2022

Hon. Sandra Ung
NYC Council Member, 20th Council District
135-27 38 Ave, Flushing, NY 11354

Re: **Support for Co-naming 1 block of 136th Street between 57th Road & 58th Avenue
In honor of the late Don Capalbi**

Dear Council Member Ung:

I am writing to support the application to co-name **1 block of 136th Street between 57th Road and 58th Avenue** as a fitting tribute in honor of the late **Don Capalbi** who passed away on December 02, 2018 in Queens, New York, at the age of 73 years. Don Capalbi lived on this street up to the time of his passing and was a prominent president of Queensboro Hill Civic Association representing this neighborhood, as a fitting and well-deserved tribute to his exemplary, lifelong community service, his ideals and his legacy.

We join with many others in our overwhelming support for this application among community residents and civic associations, as well as and current and former elected officials who have expressed high regard and admiration for Don Capalbi and his lifelong community service. Don Capalbi worked tirelessly and selflessly for the improvement of several community services and mentored many for to do the same.

Don Capalbi was President of the Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic Association, a long-time member of New York Presbyterian Queens (NYP/Q) Community Advisory Council, Flushing Chamber of Commerce and of many other community organizations in the Flushing area. He served as a Community Liaison for US Congress Member Grace Meng and served in the same capacity when Meng was a member of the NY State Assembly.

We do hope the life, legacy and contributions of Don Capalbi will be honored through the co-naming of **1 block of 136th Street between 57th Road and 58th Avenue.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Evie Hantzopoulos".

Evie Hantzopoulos
Executive Director

Copy: Ms. Marilyn McAndrews, District Manager, NYC Community Board #7, Flushing NY 11354



Elaine Young, *President*
1-917-656-6588
wcpca@aol.com
73-47 196th Street
Fresh Meadows, NY 11366

March 17, 2022

Hon. Sandra Ung
NYC Council Member, 20th Council District
135-27 38 Ave, Flushing, NY 11354

Re: Support for Co-naming 1 block of 136th Street between 57th Road & 58th Avenue
In honor of the late Don Capalbi

Dear Council Member Ung,

We fully support the application to co-name **co-naming 1 block of 136th Street between 57th Road and 58th Avenue** as a fitting tribute **in honor of the late Don Capalbi** who passed away on December 02, 2018 in Queens, New York, at the age of 73 years. Don Capalbi lived on this street up to the time of his passing and was a prominent president of Queensboro Hill Civic Association representing this neighborhood, as a fitting and well deserved tribute to his exemplary, lifelong community service, his ideals and his legacy.

We join with many others in our overwhelming support for this application among community residents and civic associations, as well as and current and former elected officials who have expressed high regard and admiration **for Don Capalbi** and his lifelong community service. Don Capalbi worked tirelessly and selflessly for the improvement of several community services and mentored many for to do the same.

Don Capalbi was President of the Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic Association, a long-time member of New York Presbyterian Queens (NYP/Q) Community Advisory Council, Flushing Chamber of Commerce and of many other community organizations in the Flushing area. He served as a Community Liaison for US Congress Member Grace Meng and served in the same capacity when Meng was a member of the NY State Assembly.

“He also fought tremendously for his neighborhood, dedicating countless hours to preserving and improving the quality of life in his community. He was also a great human being; a wonderful and special person who was selfless and full of life, and one of the kindest, friendliest and gentlest people I’ve known. His unwavering commitment to our constituents, and his many efforts to make our district a better place for all who live and work here. He will be sorely missed but the legacy of his service, and the contributions he made to help others, will never be forgotten.” *US Congress Member Grace Meng*

We fully support the co-naming of 1 block of 136th Street honoring the life, legacy and contributions of Don Capalbi for his many outstanding contributions to the betterment of the lives of so many people.

Sincerely,
Elaine Young
President
West Cunningham Park Civic Association

Copy: Ms. Marilyn McAndrews, District Manager, NYC Community Board #7, Flushing NY 11354

Biography of Late DON CAPABLI

Flushing activist Don Capalbi dead at 73

Civic leader, who worked for Rep. Meng, remembered across borough
by Ryan Brady, Editor Dec 6, 2018



Queens leaders are mourning the death of Don Capalbi, a Queensboro Hill civic activist who worked as a community liaison for Rep. Grace Meng. PHOTO COURTESY U.S. HOUSE

Flushing civic leader Don Capalbi died in hospice care on Sunday. He was 73 years old. His passing was announced by Rep. Grace Meng (D-Flushing), for whom the activist worked as a community liaison during both her years in Congress and the state Assembly.

"It is a deeply sad day," the congresswoman said in a prepared statement. "A member of our family has passed away and we are devastated by this terrible loss. Don worked tirelessly for the people of our Congressional district." Capalbi had served as president of the Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic Association and as a member of many other community groups. The child of Italian immigrants, he grew up in Astoria and later moved to the northern Queens neighborhood that he fought for as an activist.

Last month, he had spent a month at Long Island Jewish Medical Center in New Hyde Park, LI, being treated for a head injury caused by a fall.

His civic group released a statement mourning their late leader. "We mourn his passing and wish him fair winds as he travels on," it said on Facebook. "It is indeed a sad time for our community as he has advocated for so many issues and has tirelessly worked to keep this civic relevant for downtown Flushing."

Capalbi was an outspoken critic of some Queens' homeowners' practice of destroying row houses and replacing them with massive two-family homes. A businessman, he owned the College Green Pub on Kissena Boulevard, which he sold in the early 2010s.

Earlier this year, he and other Queensboro Hill leaders called on the city to implement traffic-calming measures by PS 163. Capalbi and his fellow activists won, with the city ultimately deciding to make some streets one-way. He also was one of the community leaders who spoke out in 2015 against the city Department of Transportation and Metropolitan Transportation Authority's unpopular proposed Main Street redesign, which was implemented. Back in 2013, he helped a Flushing High School graduate secure a \$1,000 grant from the Citizens Committee for New York City to train students in her troubled alma mater to compete in a taekwondo program, according to the Daily News.

"He was a very resourceful and a very kind and gentle person," Queens Civic Congress President Kevin Forrestal said of Capalbi. "He helped his community and, generally speaking, that of Queens. He represented the congresswoman with quiet, dignified respect and it'll be a loss."

City Councilmen Robert Holden (D-Middle Village) and Barry Grodenchik (D-Oakland Gardens) put out public statements mourning the loss of the civic leader.

Community Board 7 Chairman Gene Kelty said the activist was "a longtime, staunch supporter of the community over there in Queensboro Hill." He praised Capalbi for working hard with his panel to address issues in its district. Wake and funeral information had not been publicly announced by press time.

https://www.qchron.com/editions/queenswide/flushing-activist-don-capalbi-dead-at-73/article_7539669f-e129-56a4-9ed4-defe30d98270.html



CONGRESSWOMAN GRACE MENG

PROUDLY SERVING THE 6th DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MENG SADLY ANNOUNCES THE DEATH OF STAFF MEMBER DON CAPALBI

Dec 3, 2018

Press Release

Staffer also served as a Queens civic leader

QUEENS, NY – Today, U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Queens) sadly announced the death of Don Capalbi, her longtime staff member who also served as a Queens civic leader.

Capalbi died yesterday at a local hospice facility. He was hospitalized at Long Island Jewish Medical Center last month after sustaining a head injury from a fall.

Capalbi was a Community Liaison for Congresswoman Meng and served in the same capacity when she was a member of the New York State Assembly. Capalbi was also President of the Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic Association and a member of many other community organizations in the Flushing area.

“It is a deeply sad day,” said Meng. “A member of our family has passed away and we are devastated by this terrible loss. Don worked tirelessly for the people of our Congressional district. He was an invaluable part of my team, providing me with information and advice about community issues, and representing me at civic meetings and local events. He also fought tremendously for his neighborhood, dedicating countless hours to preserving and improving the quality of life in his community. But Don was much more than a terrific staffer and civic activist. He was also a great human being; a wonderful and special person who was selfless and full of life, and one of the kindest, friendliest and gentlest people I’ve known. He touched and impacted so many lives and was loved, admired and respected by all with whom he worked. Rarely did I see him without a smile on his face. I thank Don for his many years of dedication, and I will always remember his unwavering commitment to our constituents, and his many efforts to make our district a better place for all who live and work here. As I grieve his loss, I extend my deepest sympathies to his family and friends at this difficult time. He will be sorely missed but the legacy of his service, and the contributions he made to help others, will never be forgotten.”

Capalbi was 73 years old. He grew up in Astoria and was a longtime resident of the Queensboro Hill section of Flushing.

<https://meng.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/meng-sadly-announces-the-death-of-staff-member-don-capalbi>

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF DON CAPALBI

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 8, 2019

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Don Capalbi, my longtime staff member who also served as a civic leader in my district in Queens, New York.

Don passed away at local hospice facility in the early morning hours of December 2, 2018. He had been hospitalized at Northwell Health after sustaining a head injury from a fall.

Don was my Community Liaison from 2013 to 2018 and he served in the same capacity when I was a member of the New York State Assembly from 2009 to 2012. My staff and I are devastated by his loss.

Don worked tirelessly for the people of our Congressional district. He was an integral part of my team, providing me with information and advice about community issues, and representing me at civic meetings and local events. These included everything from community board and civic group meetings to press conferences and public ceremonies. One of the most recent issues he helped resolve was for the local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 3427 where he helped save costly fines.

Don was a longtime resident of the Queensboro Hill neighborhood, a residential community in Flushing, Queens. In 2009, he became president of the area's civic group, the Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic Association. Don reinvigorated the organization and fought tremendously for the community. He dedicated countless hours to preserving and improving the quality of life in the neighborhood and tackled numerous causes. He fought against excessive airplane noise, advocated for traffic and transportation improvements, pushed for beautification enhancements and partnered with local schools and libraries on a variety of projects. He also worked to combat the increase of overdevelopment and many newspapers, from the Flushing Times to the New York Times, highlighted his efforts on the issue.

In addition, Don was a member of many other community organizations in the Flushing area including the Greater Flushing Chamber of Commerce, New York Hospital Queens Community Advisory Council, 109th Precinct Community Council, Kissena Corridor Park Conservancy, Lions Club, Knights of Columbus and the NAACP.

But Don was much more than a terrific civic activist and staff member. He was also a great human being; a wonderful and special person who was selfless and full of life, and one of the kindest, friendliest and gentlest people I've known. He touched and impacted so many lives and was loved, admired and respected by all with whom he worked. Rarely did I see him without a smile on his face.

Born on March 2, 1945, Don was raised in Astoria, Queens. His mother Gaetana was an

immigrant from Italy, and his father Frank hailed from Indiana. Don graduated from La Salle Academy High School and went on to attend Long Island University where he earned a degree in Business Administration. An only child, Don was primarily raised by his mother; his father passed away when he was just 10 years old. Don loved his mother dearly and he cared for her as she grew older. With his help, she lived to the ripe old age of 103.

At the 1964–1965 World's Fair at Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, Don worked at the restaurant that was part of the famed Rheingold exhibit, and the job planted a seed for a career he had in the restaurant and food service business.

While working at the World's Fair, Don saw firsthand the popularity of the Belgian waffles that the Fair helped introduce to the nation. Showing what a visionary entrepreneur he was, Don purchased two mobile food trucks and used the vehicles to sell the famous waffles to the public, a venture that lasted several years.

Later on, Don supervised restaurant groups for Restaurant Associates Industries in Manhattan, and Inhico division of Hilton International, where his responsibilities included the operation of six restaurants in the World Trade Center.

Don then opened the Border Cafe on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, and later the College Green pub on Kissena Boulevard near Queens College.

In addition, inspired by his love of travel, Don launched Away U Go Travel, a travel agency for people with disabilities.

Despite Queens being the home of the New York Mets, Don was a diehard Yankees fan, and often discussed his fondness for the Bronx Bombers and the game of baseball. He loved all types of food from soup dumplings to pasta, enjoyed traveling—particularly on cruises—and was proud of his Italian heritage. He was also a fan of Caribbean music. But above all, he loved Queens. He had a deep affection for the borough he called home and always embraced its diversity, history and culture.

I thank Don for his many years of dedication, and I will always remember his unwavering commitment to our constituents, and his many efforts to make our Congressional district a better place for all who live and work in west, central and northeast Queens. His contributions will have a lasting impact for many years to come.

There are so many wonderful words that can be used to describe Don. Simply put, he was a class act; a decent and honorable person and a man of great integrity who served his community and our district with tremendous distinction.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in praising the work and dedication of Don Capalbi. He will be sorely missed but the legacy of his service, and the contributions he made to help others, will never be forgotten. He will remain in our hearts forever.

Meng aide Don Capalbi elected to help revive Queensboro Hill civic

By Stephen Stirling Posted on May 17, 2009



Don Capalbi says he is ready to lead a revival of the Queensboro Hill Neighborhood Association. Photo by Stephen Stirling

By Stephen Stirling

After a long period of dormancy, the Queensboro Hill Neighborhood Association said this week it is poised for a revival.

The once active civic association elected Don Capalbi, longtime activist and liaison for state Assemblywoman Grace Meng (D - Flushing), as its new president last week.

The civic group had been quiet for the better part of the last year as its longtime president, Phyllis McAuliffe, waged a lengthy battle with cancer. McAuliffe died March 15.

"Our civic has been at the forefront of many issues facing Hill residents over the years and achieved many successes on their behalf," Queensboro Hill Neighborhood Association Board Chairwoman Bessie Gasparre said. "We urge all area residents and businesses to join us as we continue to be a major proponent of quality of life in Queensboro Hill."

Capalbi is a longtime resident of Queensboro Hill and serves as vice president of Terence Park's Our Flushing Political Coalition and a member of the executive board of the Democratic Club of Flushing.

He is a member of numerous organizations in the Queens community, including the Flushing Chamber of Commerce, New York Hospital Queens Community Advisory Council, 109th Precinct Community Council, Kissena Corridor Park Conservancy, NAACP, Lions Club, Knights of Columbus and Society for Accessible Travel and Hospitality.

Capalbi said he was looking forward to leading the civic group.

"I look forward to working with the other civics of Flushing and nearby areas, and with Community Board 7, to resolve the myriad pressing issues that face us all," he said. "Our civic will endeavor to fairly represent residents from all the many races and ethnicities in our community."

<https://qns.com/2009/05/meng-aide-don-capalbi-elected-to-help-revive-queensboro-hill-civic/>

In memoriam, Donald Capalbi, Community Liaison

By Christina Wilkinson Published March 18, 2019



Don Capalbi

Donald Capalbi, Community Liaison for Congress Member Grace Meng and longtime Queens civic leader, passed away at the age of 73 on December 2 at a local hospice facility. He had been hospitalized at Long Island Jewish Medical Center last November after sustaining a head injury from a fall. Don had also served as a Community Liaison for Ms. Meng when she was a member of the New York State Assembly. Capalbi was President of the Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic Association and a member of many other community organizations in the Flushing area at the time of his death. He grew up in Astoria and was a longtime resident of the Queensboro Hill section of Flushing. Constance DelVecchio Maltese, loving wife, mother, artist, pianist and author, passed away at the age of 85 on December 7. She was an accomplished, award-winning artist and her works included the Age of Discovery series at the Intrepid Museum and the New American Women series. Her commissions included portraits of many public officials and judges. She was a member of the Society of Illustrators, Art Students League, Queens Theatre in the Park, Mayor Giuliani's Cultural Affairs Commission, and Chair of the Queens Council on the Arts. She testified recently for the Columbus Circle monument and was knighted by the government of Italy and made a Cavaliere. She loved her bungalow and played tennis and the piano with equal gusto. Constance is survived by her husband, former State Senator Serphin Maltese, her daughters, Andrea and Leslie, son-in-law, Arthur and grandchildren, Sondra, Eva, Genevieve and James.

Thomas Clarke, owner of Arby's on Metropolitan Avenue and several other chain restaurants, passed away on December 28. He was a true friend to our organization and will be missed. He donated tons of food to charity events as well to Juniper Park Civic Association. Mr. Clarke died suddenly and unexpectedly but peacefully in his sleep. We extend our condolences to his family and friends. He was the beloved husband of Olivia, loving father of Andrea and Joseph and father in law of Benjamin. Devoted grandfather of Thomas James. Cherished son of Veronica and son in law of Elena and Joseph Musso. Brother of Anne Marie, Joseph, John, Veronica, Robert and Joyce. Beloved brother in law, uncle and godfather to many. Mr. Clarke was interred at All Faiths Cemetery. The family asks that donations in his memory be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

John Downer certainly took the traditional Polish birthday greeting of "Sto Lat" to heart, having achieved 104 years on this planet before his death on February 16. John was born on the Lower East Side in 1914 to parents who immigrated to the United States from Poland at the turn of the century. He attended Fordham University and later worked as an accountant. In 1938, he took the police department civil service exam and was appointed to the NYPD in September of 1941. His entry in the Department was cut short due to the start of World War II. He was deployed to England with the 8th Army Air Force protecting and securing the secret Norden Bombsight project. After returning home, he climbed the ranks of the NYPD, with his final promotion to Deputy Chief Inspector – today's equivalent of Deputy Chief – achieved in June 1969. After his retirement in 1973, he worked for the Board of Education for 2 years hiring and training School Safety agents. He later worked for the American Banknote organization, in charge of security until 1977 when he retired for the last time. When he turned 100, he met with former Police Commissioner William Bratton and was given the opportunity to tour the Operations Unit to see technological advances that did not exist when he was an active member of the NYPD.

<https://junipercivic.com/juniper-berry/article/in-memoriam-2>

Flushing Civic Leader Don Capalbi Has Died



Don Capalbi (Photo: Grace Meng)

Dec. 3, 2018 By Christian Murray

A well-known Flushing civic leader died Sunday.

Don Capalbi, who worked for U.S. Rep. Grace Meng and was an active member of several civic groups, passed away at a local hospice facility yesterday. He was 73.

Capalbi's death came a month after he sustained a head injury from a fall and was hospitalized at Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

"It is a deeply sad day," said Congresswoman Meng. "A member of our family has passed away and we are devastated by this terrible loss."

Capalbi, who grew up in Astoria, was a community liaison for the congress woman and served in the same capacity when she was in the Assembly. He was the president of the Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic Association and was a member of the Greater Flushing Chamber of Commerce and the 109th Precinct Community Council.

He lived in Queensboro Hill, a residential area located in the southern portion of Flushing between Kissena Corridor Park and the Long Island Expressway.

"He was an invaluable part of my team, providing me with information and advice about community issues, and representing me at civic meetings and local events. He also fought tremendously for his neighborhood, dedicating countless hours to preserving and improving the quality of life for his community."

<https://flushingpost.com/flushing-civic-leader-don-capalbi-has-died>

Flushing activist Don Capalbi dead at 73

Dec 14, 2018

BY: Ryan Brady

Flushing civic leader Don Capalbi died in hospice care on Sunday. He was 73 years old. His passing was announced by Rep. Grace Meng (D-Flushing), for whom the activist worked as a community liaison during both her years in Congress and the state Assembly. "It is a deeply sad day," the congresswoman said in a prepared statement. "A member of our family has passed away and we are devastated by this terrible loss. Don worked tirelessly for the people of our Congressional district."

Capalbi had served as president of the Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic Association and as a member of many other community groups. The child of Italian immigrants, he grew up in Astoria and later moved to the northern Queens neighborhood that he fought for as an activist.

<https://www.wetheitalians.com/default/flushing-activist-don-capalbi-dead-73>



Please join the family and friends of

Don Capalbi

to celebrate the beauty of his legacy
with the people he loved the most at
one of his favorite places.

Saturday, January 12, 2019
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

President's Lounge (Dining Hall)
Queens College
65-30 Kissena Boulevard
Flushing, NY 11367

11:00 am: Doors Open
11:30 am: Program
12:00 pm: Reception
1:00 pm: Event concludes

RSVP by email: doncapalbinemorialservice@gmail.com



A bench to honor Don Capalbi May 9, 2019



The late Flushing civic leader Don Capalbi was honored on Tuesday morning at Queens Botanical Garden, where a bench in his name was dedicated.
PHOTO COURTESY ASHOOK RAMSARAN

The late Flushing civic leader Don Capalbi was honored on Tuesday morning at Queens Botanical Garden, where a bench in his name was dedicated.

"In memory of Don Capalbi, community leader and friend," the inscription on the bench reads.

The event was sponsored by NewYork-Presbyterian Queens hospital and QBG. The activist had been a longtime member of the NYPQ community advisory council.

Capalbi was the longtime president of the Queenboro Hill Civic Association. He also worked as an aide to Rep. Grace Meng (D-Flushing). Along with the congresswoman, family members and friends of the late activist were on hand at Tuesday's event. It was moderated by QBG Executive Director Susan Lacerte. Many representatives of both the botanical garden and NYPQ were in attendance.

City Councilmen Peter Koo (D-Flushing) and Donovan Richards (D-Laurelton) were there, too, along with staffers of other lawmakers. Many civic associations were also represented.

QUEENS
Chronicle



IN MEMORIAM FOR DON CAPALBI



Dear Colleague and Friend,

We are quickly approaching another death anniversary for Don Capalbi. For years Don tirelessly advocated and worked for a better quality of life regardless of how much toll it took on his health. He was relentless, day in and day out.

Our community misses his leadership and would like to remember him by planting of bulbs at NYPH on Main Street, where he served on the Community Advisory Board. We will have the honor of Congresswoman Grace Meng whom Don served with passion and loyalty.

We invite you to attend and help keep the spirit of his love of community alive.

We will meet at 1 pm at the flagpole in front of the hospital, Main Street entrance. Please RSVP, emailing Queensborohillcivic@gmail.com or at 9178926565

We appreciate your kindness and participation.

Best Regards,
The Board of Queensboro Hill Flushing Civic



queensborohillcivic@gmail.com

QUEENSBORO HILL FLUSHING CIVIC ASSOCIATION AND NEW YORK PRESBYTERIAN - WEILL CORNELL



November 28th, 2021 @ 1 PM
Meeting Place, Flagpole
NYPQ, Main Street Entrance

From: bill mulrow bmulrow@gmail.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 4, 2022 at 11:45 AM
To: umneary@gmail.com

I am adding my name in support of co- naming 57th & 1st "Jimmy Neary Way".

Jimmy, the longtime legendary proprietor of Neary's on East 57th Street, was and still is an icon in the Irish American community in New York. A gracious, warm and loving man was Jimmy, and his eponymous restaurant was a welcome home to all - celebrities, elected officials, business leaders and neighborhood residents.

Jimmy, while becoming a successful businessman and restaurateur, was much more than that. His story is that of so many New Yorkers - of an immigrant who comes here with little, works hard, raises a family, and contributes mightily to his community. Jimmy became a friend and role model to so many, myself included as a son of Irish immigrants as well.

Co-naming 57th & 1st as "Jimmy Neary Way" would be a fitting tribute to a great man. He truly personified what makes our City so special.

I proudly add my voice in support of this very worthy effort.

Bill Mulrow
959 1st Avenue

Sent from my iPhone

From: Gerald Crotty GCrotty@weichertenterprise.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 5, 2022 at 10:56 AM
To: umneary@gmail.com

Dear Una,

If you could forward this to the right address I'd be very grateful. I don't trust myself to get it to the City Council link properly.... and I don't want to miss!

#. #. #.

To Council Member Julie Menin:

I just heard of your superb idea and proposal to co name 57 th St & 1st Avenue as 'Jimmy Neary Way'. I support it and the entire Crotty family joins in this endorsement.

Jimmy Neary was a great New Yorker of Irish extraction whose presence at 57 th and 1st lit up that location, and the lives of all who entered his premises, for 45 years. Indeed, the location and "Nearys" became synonymous over the years and are now indistinguishable. Co naming the site as 'Jimmy Neary Way' acknowledges the 'facts on the ground' as well as New York's gratitude to him and his beautiful family for the constant contributions the Neary's made to positive City experiences for residents and tourists alike for decades!

Thank you for your proposal.

Sincerely,

Gerald C. (Jerry) Crotty

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

June 5, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

I'm submitting this letter today expressing my STRONG support for having 57th Street & 1st Avenue renamed "Jimmy Neary Way".

There are hundreds, thousands of inspiring stories about immigrants who came to America and made significant impacts for themselves and their families. None is more inspiring and rewarding than Jimmy Neary's.

Since the day he arrived and up until the day he died, he made New York City materially better. It wasn't about the restaurant, it was about the person. He made you feel better about yourself, about New York City, about how important immigrants are to America, and how to treat people from across the world.

People of power, people in politics, people with influence, all made a point to interact and know Jimmy because of the life lessons he taught them all about how to conduct oneself across all walks of life. He didn't care who you were, how big a job you had, he treated every equally with kindness, love, and respect. He was a beacon of hope threaded through a complicated city and world, a rare commodity.

He would both embarrassed and honored with this well-deserved recognition.

The city needs to reserve these special awards for the best of the best, based on their life's body of work. I would put Jimmy Neary at the top of that list.

I would walk across the country to be at the ceremony and honor the great Jimmy Neary because of the impact he's had on me.

With the deepest respect



Mark Flaherty

Markflaherty0424@gmail.com

617-974-1662

From: Brendan Darcy bdarcy337@yahoo.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 4, 2022 at 10:02 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com

Una , What a wonderful tribute that would be! I sent in my submission but I am not sure if it went through. The procedure is very complicated for simple computer kindergarten folks like myself. I still find it hard to mention your Dad's name in the past tense .It is hard to believe he is gone .He was the smiling welcoming face of New York, it stretched all the way from Sligo to the Big Apple and beyond .He served this country ,raised his family with lots of love fun and faith. He supported his Church and it's many missions especially in Africa through the S.M.A. Fathers in Tenafly New Jersey where he attended Mass every morning before visiting his dear wife's grave nearby. Then, he was off to work across the big bridge until around 11pm when he made the return journey .Even up to and beyond his 80th year this man was a true inspiration to every immigrant no matter how humble your origins ,if you are willing to work hard in America a chunk of the big Apple can be yours and you will die a happy person .He was happy in his work ,he loved and respected his wonderful staff of many years and he enjoyed and attended to his customers in a very personal way. A great City like New York was never in danger of losing it's reputation for the personal touch as long as Jimmy was around. Jimmy Neary was a dear and personal friend of mine during my many years stationed in New Jersey .He took me out to breakfast many times and the gesture was most deeply appreciated after I had lost some members of my immediate family far away in Ireland. I used wonder how many times this happy and kind little gentleman had offered this joyful comforting hospitality to other people in a similar or even more difficult situation. Jimmy embodied the heart and soul of the old New York .May the new Jimmy Neary Way keep the spirit and his memory alive for years to come. Una ,you may use the contents of this message as you see fit to promote this wonderful cause. Many blessings on you and the family, Fr. Brendan Darcy S.M.A.

From: Perry, Richard rperry@perrycap.com
Subject: Dear Una
Date: June 5, 2022 at 9:36 AM
To: umneary@gmail.com

Since we moved to sutton place in 2000 we have been regular customers of Neary's. Your family restaurant became our family restaurant. We loved being greeted by your dad and often getting to see you when your day job ended. The staff was always warm and friendly. I would always start with your salad then waver back and forth between the scrod and the lamb chops. I also loved the fully loaded baked potato. Lisa and i raised our kids at Neary's and when they are in the neighborhood they still drop by. Your dad was the most humble and excellent proprietor. He always made us feel comfortable. We all miss him. It would be wonderful to see 'Jimmy Neary Way' every time i go back to one sutton place south. You were the most wonderful daughter. All my best. Richard Perry
This message may contain confidential, proprietary or legally privileged information and is intended only for the use of the addressee named above. No confidentiality or privilege is waived or lost by any mistransmission. If you are not the intended recipient of this message you must not disseminate, distribute, copy or take any action in reliance on this e-mail or any attachment. Please notify the sender immediately by e-mail if you have received this e-mail by mistake and delete this e-mail from your system. This communication is for information purposes only and should not be regarded as an offer, solicitation or recommendation to sell or purchase any security or other financial product.

From: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: Co-Naming 57th Street and 1st "Jimmy Neary Way"
Date: June 6, 2022 at 8:27 AM
To: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com



Begin forwarded message:

From: ljschiffer@aol.com
Subject: Re: Co-Naming 57th Street and 1st "Jimmy Neary Way"
Date: June 4, 2022 at 11:34:03 AM EDT
To: "umneary@gmail.com" <umneary@gmail.com>
Reply-To: ljschiffer@aol.com

To The New York City Council

June 4th 2022

I am writing this letter to ask that you support the current bill naming East 57th Street and First Avenue, Jimmy Neary Way.

A finer tribute to a fine New Yorker is the ultimate way to honor a genuine man who was an Immigrant, a pious religious person, a United States Army Veteran who served during the Korean War and most of all a Man who exemplified what a true New Yorker is.

Jimmy Neary supported many charitable causes, employed countless immigrants at his business, "Neary's" at the site that is to be named and a good loyal friend to thousands of people from all walks of life.

I support this bill and urge the members of the City Council to do the same.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Harold Schiffer
City Resident who served the City of New York for over 20 years

From: Paul Purcell paul@bandp.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 5, 2022 at 10:26 AM
To: umneary@gmail.com

Can you use this?:

This letter is offered in wholehearted support of co-naming East 57th Street and First Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way."

As a neighbor having lived at 325 East 57th Street for many years, Neary's became my "dining room," as it was for so many neighbors, New Yorkers and visitors to our city...regular folk mixing with, on so many occasions, the famous. You never knew whom you might be seated next to. And, Jimmy fostered an atmosphere where everyone chatted with everyone. It was "home" to me.

Jimmy Neary was the consummate host. He welcomed me and my friends and family over the years making them feel at home. My Irish nieces and nephew would dine with me on every trip from Dublin, Ireland, and Jimmy would regale them with stories of Sligo. My parents, my friends and every visitor had to have a meal at Neary's.

Beyond the restaurant Jimmy was a fixture on the street chatting up everyone on his way to "work." Jimmy didn't call it work as entertaining was his passion.

The word "iconic" is so overused, but Jimmy and Neary's fit the word.

Respectfully, I endorse this fully. The block truly belongs to Jimmy and all who loved him.

Regards,

Paul Purcell
East 57th Street
New York, NY

Paul Purcell
Braddock + Purcell

Paul@bandp.com

East 57th Street
New York, NY 10022
June 5, 2022

Julia Menin
New York City Council
District 5

Dear Ms. Julia Menin,

It has come to our attention the the New York City Council is reviewing legislation to have 57th Street and 1st Avenue co-named as "Jimmy Neary Way".

As local residents of the area and long time patrons of Neary's, it is our opinion that this would be a wonderful tribute to Jimmy Neary's memory.

We used to call Jimmy "The Mayor" of 57th Street as he was always welcoming everyone that passed through the doors of Neary's. The meek and the powerful were there in plenty for over 50 years and always treated with the very same warm and most generous welcome.

Jimmy's personal history, hard work, fortitude were a tribute him and an example of what it is to be a "True American". Furthermore, we would project that if all of those who passed through the doors of Neary's knew of this proposal, you would be inundated with letters of support.

Sincerely,


Phyllis Charney


Don Charney

Barbara D. Hayes
310 East 70th Street
New York, NY 10021
(212) 988-0702
hayesbarbarad@yahoo.com

June 4, 2022

Ms. Julie Menin
District 5
New York City Council

Dear Ms. Menin:

It is with great enthusiasm that I write in support of co-naming 57th Street and 1st Avenue as "Jimmy Neary Way."

Neary's opened in 1967 and soon became a New York Institution, welcoming the famous and well-known, and neighbors who are regulars, treating everyone with the same care and respect.

Each time I arrived for dinner with friends, Jimmy greeted us as if we were part of his family - we always felt at home and loved seeing him. He worked side by side with his daughter Una, a successful Wall Street executive, who is equally charming and gracious. We are all so pleased that she has continued her father's legacy, keeping the restaurant operating as it did. I look forward to many more evenings at Neary's.

I am extremely pleased to join the hundreds plus of Jimmy's fans who would be thrilled with the co-naming of 57th Street and 1st Avenue. Your favorable consideration would be very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Hayes

From: Pat Dillon pat.di870@gmail.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 5, 2022 at 4:08 PM
To: Una Neary urneary@gmail.com

I am 100% in favor of 57th Street and 1st Avenue named "Jimmy Neary Way."

I have lived over 25 years here and as soon as I discovered Jimmy Neary's restaurant I have been a steady customer. I am now 95 years old and still a customer.

Jimmy Neary's was the most important place on 57th Street. All you had to say to anyone was "I'll meet you at Neary's."

I hope the City Council will approve
The Jimmy Neary way.

Sincerely,

Patricia Dillon
870 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Sent from my iPad

From: Andrew Mullins amullins@stbarts.org
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 5, 2022 at 5:52 PM
To: Neary Una umneary@gmail.com

I write in support of the proposal to name First Ave and 57th Street 'Jimmy Neary Way'. Considering Jim's positive impact on thousands upon thousands of people in the immediate community it would be welcomed and well deserved. A constant smiling presence, every day in the community for 55 years, his absence is detrimental.... a wee reminder would be appreciated by thousands and would bring smiles to their faces.

Most sincerely,
The Rev Canon Andrew J W Mullins
Assistant Rector
St Bartholomew's Church Park Avenue
(Former next door resident of Neary's)

Assistant Rector
St Bartholomew's Church
325 Park Avenue
New York, NY. 10022
Office: 212-378-0210
amullins@stbarts.org

iPhone: 917-941-7674
stbarts.org

From: Mary Cashin marywcashin@gmail.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary
Date: June 5, 2022 at 6:06 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com

I write in the strongest support of the proposal to co-name 57th and 1st Jimmy Neary Way. I knew Jimmy Neary for decades, meeting him after moving to New York City in the 1980s. My husband and I shared his Irish heritage -- he was born in the same county as my father -- and that was an immediate connection. However, as the years passed and we got to know him better, we grew to admire his remarkable journey from his arrival in this country as a poor immigrant to the pinnacle of New York City success by dint of determination, hard work, loyalty to his staff, and, most of all, his absolute devotion to his family, all of whom were in regular support at the restaurant. He welcomed each and every guest, the well-known and the unknown alike, moving from table to table, ensuring everyone's happiness. All were afforded the most generous hospitality, a warm and comfortable environment, and delicious food! Whether you were Irish or not, he made you feel like family! His good will and influence extended far beyond the walls of 358 E 57th Street, a fact that was amply demonstrated by the remarkable attendance at his funeral at St. Patrick's Cathedral. The neighborhood, the city, and its many residents have lost a beacon of inspiration and joy with Jimmy's passing, and it would be so fitting to honor this legacy with the establishment of Jimmy Neary Way.

--
Mary Cashin

--
Mary Cashin

From: Kate Krieger Kateforge@hotmail.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 5, 2022 at 9:27 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com
Cc: mitchell kriegler meykrie1@gmail.com, Miles Krieger mkrieger24@d-e.org, Annabelle Krieger akrieger@nightingale.org

Dear NYC Council,

I am writing in the most heartfelt way to recommend the naming of Jimmy Neary Way. When I think about those three words, I am first thinking of the person Jimmy was. He was hard working, he had a sparkle, he was loyal and he built a community and a place for people to go and feel special.

Then I think about the Neary part. He was an immigrant, he had a vision and he put in for his community whilst proudly holding onto his roots. I also have to say that he created the most amazing Neary family. His daughters are amazing. I feel privileged to know them. And he expanded that family to include the people who work at Nearys. They are equally part of his family.

Finally the Way. Jimmy Neary had a way. He had a way with his family, he had a way with his staff and he had a way with his customers.

He is as a New Yorker. And New York was lucky to have him. Please honor him.

It is the least we can do. We love Jimmy Neary.

Best,

Kate Krieger

Sent from my iPhone

John J. Halleron, III
2125 Lakeview Avenue West
Brightwaters, New York 11718

June 5, 2022

Hon. Shekar Krishnan, Chairperson
Committee on Parks and Recreation

Re: Co-Naming 57th Street and First Avenue
"Jimmy Neary Way"

Honorable Dear Sir:

My wife, Becky, and I couldn't be more excited about the above proposal to co-name "Jimmy Neary Way".

Although we are not residents of New York City, we greatly enjoy our many visits in which we immensely enjoy its amenities, the greatest of which was our time spent with Jimmy Neary. Jimmy was a treasured friend of long standing (as is Una, his daughter) and we enjoyed countless dinners at Neary's during which it was delightful to be in their presence.

Jimmy was truly a New York City legend, who, having come to our shores with literally nothing, started as a porter in the New York Athletic Club and through hard work and an amazing personality achieved his goal of being the owner of Neary's, clearly one of the most, if not the most, delightful dining establishment in the City.

We, like so many who knew him, will never forget Jimmy and believe that the co-naming proposal could not be a more deserving tribute for such a truly remarkable person.

Respectfully,


John J. Halleron, III.

From: Harriet Helfenbein harchat623@gmail.com
Subject: Regarding the Proposal to Co-Name 57th St and 1st Ave "JIMMY NEARY WAY"
Date: June 5, 2022 at 11:09 PM
To: Una Neary UMNeary@gmail.com
Cc: harchat623@gmail.com

After moving to the neighborhood, my husband and I wandered into Neary's one Friday night in 2014. Jimmy immediately ushered us in with a smile, and engaged us in conversation.

He was gracious, inquisitive, and enormously informed. He was the perfect host welcoming his guests with open arms. There was always joy in his in his heart and his Irish brogue made it even more intriguing, joyful,

and simply delightful!

Over the next few years, we were privileged to be invited into his "inclusive" world and we were so proud and so honored to be part of the celebrations at his restaurant. His smiling face at the door never failed. Jimmy's love of life was clearly contagious!

Jimmy Neary's entrance into America as an immigrant, his hard work, his love for his family, and his inclusive caring personality set an example for all those who had the privilege of knowing him.

Need we say more?

Harriet and Rick Helfenbein
914 953 6515
Self

New York City Council

To Whom it May Concern

June 5, 2022

This letter is written in support of co-naming 57th Street and First Avenue, "Jimmy Neary Way".

Jimmy has for decades been the single biggest reason for coming to eat at his restaurant. Whether you were a true regular, or, like us, periodic in our patronage, Jimmy was the consummate host ... making an effort to know his customers and to share his Irish wit and wisdom. The food was always good but the host was always truly special.

The reason then that I support the name change is that Neary's has become an institution in its East Side neighborhood. For generations of people, Neary's has been very much the lifeblood of the surrounding area. Naming the section of the street for Jimmy Neary would recognize how integral the restaurant has been, is currently, and will continue to be to that section of the city, all driven by the efforts of its long-time proprietor.

William L Rutledge

9 Prospect Park West

Apt 5-A

Brooklyn, NY 11215

From: PHYLLIS WERNER phy15@aol.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 6, 2022 at 7:29 AM
To: umneary@gmail.com

Jimmy Neary worked so hard and pushed his abilities to the limit to make Nearys a success. Everyone who entered the restaurant felt like family. A wonderful man. No one deserves this honor more. JIMMY NEARY WAY
Phyllis & Fred Werner

Sent from my iPad

From: Victor Shedlin vshedlin@icloud.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 5, 2022 at 5:45 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com

What a wonderful honor for a great human being! We frequented your restaurant and always enjoyed the food and terrific hospitality. We'll continue dining and hope to see the deserved tribute very soon. God bless all the Neary's!!!
Victor and Susan Shedlin

Sent from my iPhone

From: Dore Normile dorenormile@gmail.com
Subject: 57th and first Ave named for Jimmy Neary
Date: June 4, 2022 at 2:26 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com

I am writing in support of naming 57th street and first avenue Jimmy Neary Way

Jimmy Neary was a fixture not only on 57th street and first avenue but to every person who walked through the door of his restaurant.

Hi positive outlook on life and love of New York made him amazingly successful and much loved.

Please name a street where he opened his restaurant many many years ago and contributed to the area in a million ways.

Thank you,

Dore Hammond Normile
914.772.2483
dorenormile@gmail.com

From: Tina Baker tinabaker30@gmail.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 4, 2022 at 1:02 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com, Annmarie Bergwall ambergwall@mac.com

To whom it may concern,

I am in full support of the proposal to have 57th Street and 1st Avenue co-named as "Jimmy Neary Way".

Jimmy Neary was an Irish immigrant who came to America in search of a better life and the American dream. He opened Neary's restaurant and worked tirelessly until he died at the age of 91. He's a New York legend and was respected and loved by all who knew him. Having 57th Street and 1st Avenue named Jimmy Neary Way would be a tribute to this icon and an inspiration to everyone who comes to this country that dreams do come true with hard work and perseverance.

Best,
Tina Baker
23 Spencer Drive
Morristown, NJ 07960
973-519-8201

From: Francis Murphy vze422tz@verizon.net
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 4, 2022 at 5:25 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com

I think that's a wonderful idea to remember a wonderful person and to honor his memory and those of his family. He exemplified class and dignity (as well as having a great sense of humor!)
Francis (Frank) Murphy

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

From: Margo Grant Walsh mgrantwalsh@aol.com
Subject: Your Dad
Date: June 4, 2022 at 12:59 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com

Una

Please send this note to the NYC City Council in support of naming 57th and 1st "JIMMY NEARY WAY".

We don't think of Jimmy as a "neighbor" -- **he was an institution** that brought good food, good times, great people and tremendous food service to our modest and small neighborhood. You always had to plan to get to Neary's really early -- or at the end of dining hour to get a seat. He had the magic instinct to know "who is next" and kept his eye on his guests to see "who needs to move...on..." For years I would dine there at least 3 nights a week. A solo woman on a banquette with my back against the wall. It was a respite from my long hard day of work. A place to relax, admire the crowd and never fear that there would be bad behavior or some one who had too much of the sauce.

I spent at least special 5 birthday's with friends and Jimmy would always produce a cake. I would call ahead, make certain there were at least 3 of us - so we could enjoy one of his "power booths." There was a good selection of the clergy (a cardinal at that) and the cops and politicians (a mayor or a police commissioner) or a neighborhood celebrity to add interest.

And his waitresses and bartenders and kitchen help could not be beat. Please let him live on. We all have many fond memories. There was only one Jimmy Neary. This is a well earned honor.

Margo Grant Walsh
4 Sutton Place South



ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

Chancery Office
JOHN P. CAHILL
Chancellor

June 6, 2022

Honorable Members of the Committee on Parks & Recreation
New York City Council
City Hall
City Hall Park
260 Broadway
Manhattan, New York City 10007

Re: Naming of Fifty- Seventh Street and First Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way"

Dear Committee Members,

I submit this letter in wholehearted support of the legislation naming Fifty-Seventh Street and First Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way". As one who has been active in the Irish American community of New York City for more than 40 years, I can attest that Jimmy Neary was far more than a successful restaurateur. To so many of us Irish Americans, Jimmy represented what we all inspired to be: a man dedicated to his family and faith while at the same time going out of his way to help anyone in need. He welcomed all who entered the door of his restaurant with the same smiling Irish eyes no matter where you were from or what was your background.

The naming of the street would be an appropriate recognition of a man who loved this City and gave so much to the City's character.

Very Truly Yours,



John P. Cahill

T: 646.794.3014
www.archny.org
john.cahill@archny.org

1011 First Avenue, New York, NY 10022

Dear Council Member Menin,

Thank you for your consideration in honoring Seamus “Jimmy” Neary with the co-naming of 57th Street and 1st Avenue as “Jimmy Neary Way.” I can think of no better way to honor New York than to recognize what my Uncle Seamus and his generation accomplished in this great city.

Jimmy Neary lived the American Dream that New York City aspires to offer all its immigrants from all over the world. After arriving from Ireland to the Bronx, he served his country in the United States Army. His long and distinguished career in hospitality at the corner of 57th and 1st has been documented extensively. At every stage of his life, Jimmy Neary lived a life of service to others while pursuing the American Dream.

With the honor of “Jimmy Neary Way” we hope that future generations will be inspired to their own service to others as they continue to shape the ongoing evolution of New York City.

John Neary
New York, NY

Monday June 6, 2022

To: The New York City Council

Re: Co-naming 57th Street and 1st Avenue as "Jimmy Neary Way"

Jimmy Neary was goodness and brilliance personified. In 1967 with the opening of his wonderful restaurant, he built camaraderie within the community and brought together an entire world of people from all walks of life, making them always feel at home with his inimitable hospitality and good cheer. This magic he created exists to this day and is still wholeheartedly felt throughout the East 57th Street community, and of course beyond. So much has been written about his innumerable accomplishments. His presence, kindness and generosity lit up the neighborhood. It was inspiring to see him walking around in the neighborhood all these years – a neighborhood he helped create. It is only fitting that East 57th Street and First Avenue be co-named "Jimmy Neary Way" to honor his extraordinary gifts to the community and his legacy.

With enormous love and respect for Jimmy Neary and with infinite gratitude for all the good he has done for the neighborhood and its residents, and so many others. We will always remember him.

Nell Yperifanos 400 East 58th Street, #15F, New York NY, 10022 (friend and customer for over 50 years)

Alexandra B. Nell Yperifanos

Wayne Froud and Alexandra Yperifanos 444 West 19th Street, #903, New York NY 10011 (friends and customers for over 25 years)

Wayne Froud Alexandra Yperifanos

Beechdale
21 Avonmore
Foxrock
Dublin D18 V2R7
Ireland

5th June 2022

Chairperson
Committee on Parks and Recreation
New York City Council
New York City Hall
New York

Dear Sir / Madam

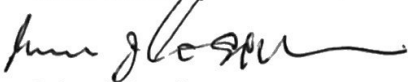
Jimmy Neary Way

I am writing to support the proposal by Julie Menin , Council Member for District 5, to have 57th Street and 1st Avenue co-named as "Jimmy Neary Way".

Jimmy was a dear and valued friend and someone very special to me. He was my hero and I was in awe of him. A man small in stature but a giant in so many ways. His work ethic was exceptional and he epitomised what America offers by way of opportunity to immigrants. He was born for the hospitality industry and what a show he ran on 57th Street. He was an ordinary yet an extraordinary person. His smile, laughter and personality were infectious and he upheld strong values of honesty, integrity and fairness while earning absolute loyalty from customers and staff. As Mayor Bloomberg said in his eulogy at Jimmy's funeral mass in St Patrick's Cathedral last year - "New York needs more like Jimmy Neary". A fitting tribute to a humble and hard working person who made such a significant contribution to the lives of those he touched. I was honoured to know Jimmy and to have him refer to me as his friend.

It would be fitting and appropriate to honour this special person by agreeing to co-name 57th Street and 1st Avenue as "Jimmy Neary Way". He would not want the fuss but I know he would be quietly chuffed. Such recognition would be wonderful for Jimmy's family and for his many loyal friends, customers and staff.

Yours sincerely



Brian J Goggin
Former Group Chief Executive Bank of Ireland

June 2, 2022

To: CB Six District Manager Jesus Perez

Re: Street Co-naming for Dr. May Edward Chinn

Dear Mr. Perez,

As a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for 46 years it has been my privilege to personally know Delta women who have made significant contributions as first achievers to the New York community and the world. Dr. May Edward Chinn stands out as one of the finest examples of this.

In 1921 Dr. May Edward Chinn became a charter member of Alpha Beta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. This was the first graduate chapter of a sorority that was only eight years old. Though the name changed to Alpha Sigma and is now known as N.Y. Alumnae Chapter, its mission has always been in public service.


Dr. Chinn was one of a handful of educated black women in the early 1900s who made a difference despite the challenges of race, gender and other biases. As a founding member of Alpha Beta Chapter we know that she was a part of its rich foundation that has grown in leadership and public service in the Harlem community for 101 years. Professionally we know that Dr. Chinn was the first Black female doctor to graduate from Bellevue Medical College in 1926. We know that she was the first Black female doctor to intern at Harlem Hospital when it was a white male dominated medical staff. She was the first Black female doctor to ride in an ambulance. And we know that when hospitals would not give her privileges to work within their hospital, she set up a private practice in the Harlem community. Later her interest in cancer screening research led to work that would successfully allow detection of gynecological cancer in women. We know that because of her dedication, brilliance, and steadfast courage to make a difference that our world is a better place.

Dr. May Edward Chinn is known and revered by New York members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. For more than three decades the New York Metropolitan Coordinating Council has awarded the Dr. May Edward Chinn Scholarship to a deserving medical student within our sorority at the annual Founders Day Luncheon. It is because of women and sorors such as Dr. May Edward Chinn that healthcare continues to advance in so many ways. It is most fitting that Dr. May Edward Chinn be honored and celebrated for her vast accomplishments. As a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. North Manhattan Alumnae Chapter, I am honored to overwhelmingly support and ask CB Six to grant approval of Street Co-naming in honor of Dr. May Edward Chinn. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christine E. Merritt

Christopher J. Brown
Plymouth Avenue
Brightwaters, NY 11718



June 6, 2022

Dear NYC Council,

I am writing in support of the legislation proposed by Council member Julie Menin to have 57th St. and 1st Avenue in Manhattan co-named "Jimmy Neary Way". I have known Jimmy Neary and his wonderful family for over 30 years. Jimmy has been a pillar of this community for decades and exemplifies the best of what it means to be a New Yorker. Rarely in this city and this world can you find someone that is universally beloved and respected. Jimmy Neary is that person. His personality lit up a room and his work ethic was second to none. His presence on 57th and 1st was known to all and should be celebrated.

Respectfully,

Christopher J. Brown

Christopher J. Brown, CPA



The Irish Repertory Theatre provides a context for understanding the contemporary Irish-American experience through evocative works of theater, music, and dance. This mission is accomplished by staging the works of Irish and Irish-American classic and contemporary playwrights, encouraging the development of new works focused on the Irish and Irish-American experience, and producing the works of other cultures interpreted through the lens of an Irish sensibility.

June 5, 2022

New York City Council

New York NY

RE: Renaming Jimmy Neary Way

Dear Members of NYC Council:

We are writing in full support of the legislation that would re-name 57th Street and 1st Ave to the co-name of "Jimmy Neary Way". It is an apt and glorious gesture for a most revered man.

Mr. Neary's name and reputation is synonymous with East 57th Street. For over half a century, he brought honor and dignity to his neighborhood and to his city. This honor was felt by all of us who have strived to make our mark and contribute to this city of immigrants. Jimmy Neary's warmth and decency inspired us all.

To know that his name would be etched in that little corner of the rock sends the message that New York City cares and remembers their best selves.

Sincerely yours

Ciaran O'Reilly

Producing Director

Charlotte Moore

Artistic Director

Jimmy Neary - a legend!! Jimmy's story is truly a feel good American success story. From his birth place in Ireland to his reign over Neary's on East 57th Street, he personified the American dream.

Three generations of the Gene Bay family have many fond memories of dining at Neary's. For our grandchildren, Mr. Neary always treated them with the same respect as the adults in the room. However, no one shared the same close friendship as Gene and Jimmy.

Jimmy Neary will always be a larger than life presence on East 57th Street. In fact, even renaming the entire length of East 57th Street the "Jimmy Neary Way" would not be enough to cancel his gigantic presence in the mid-town east neighborhood.

June 9, 2022

To: The City Council and CB Six District Manager: Jesus Perez

Re: Street Co-naming for Dr. May Edward Chinn

Dear City Council and CB Six District Manager Mr. Perez,

I am writing to express my support for the Street Co-naming for Dr. May Edward Chinn at the Northwest corner of East 29th Street and First Avenue in Manhattan. I am a native New Yorker and have lived here my whole life, and raised my children in the same neighborhood. I believe it is important for children growing up to have good role models and I believe Dr. Chinn is such a role model. She was a woman of color who persevered over many obstacles and became a doctor at a time very few did. She lived and worked in the area, and did outstanding work especially in the fight against cancer. I can imagine parents and their children noticing the sign and being inspired by her positive example. Please approve this Street Co-naming, thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Rose Cohen

Neary's is widely and highly regarded as an original New York City institution by its many loyal patrons who have enjoyed the Neary family hospitality for over 50 years and counting!

The Late Mr. Jimmy Neary's journey to the United States is a fabulous one filled with determination and achievement to inspire all. Jimmy's vision and love of his customers was infectious! He would warmly introduce people to each other and create an atmosphere of close community. Jimmy Neary's unwavering dedication to his customers was unequalled.

Although Jimmy Neary started his business on 57th Street just off First Avenue over 50 years ago, I remember the first day I walked into Neary's restaurant, nearly 2 decades ago, and experienced a very welcoming, friendly "safe place". I had just had a lumpectomy and had not eaten anything since prior day. Walking back to my apartment on 56th Street I saw that Neary's was open midday. I walked in and had a most wonderful lunch! It was a very emotional day for me and Mary (server) showed me tremendous kindness. I've been returning on regular basis although I moved a half mile South.

Dining with family is how I would describe the experience at Neary's. It was Jimmy Neary who envisioned and built Neary's into a beloved destination for young and old alike. Although we lost our dear Jimmy in 2021, his daughters, Una and Anne Marie continue the traditions that Jimmy instilled.

Naming 57th Street at First Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way" is a befitting way to memorialize all that Jimmy Neary has contributed to New York City, as well as celebrate the next generation on the Neary family who continues to serve the greater midtown Manhattan neighborhoods every day!



Robert I. Grossman, MD
Dean and Chief Executive Officer

April 29, 2022

Gene Santoro
Transportation Committee
Manhattan Community Board Six
211 East 43rd Street, Suite 1404
New York, NY 10017

Dear Chairman Santoro,

On behalf of NYU Langone Health, I am writing this letter in support of honoring the late May Edward Chinn, M.D., an extraordinary physician and trailblazing cancer researcher, who overcame numerous racial barriers to become one of the first African-American physicians in New York City. In 1926, Dr. Chinn became the first African-American woman to graduate from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, now NYU Grossman School of Medicine. NYU Langone joins community member Michelle Winfield of District Six and NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue in requesting that Community Board Six put forth a resolution to co-name the Northwest corner of 1st Avenue and East 29th Street after Dr. Chinn.

A true New Yorker, Dr. Chinn was raised, educated, and practiced medicine in New York City. She received her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from Columbia University. Dr. Chinn's subsequent career was decorated with a series of firsts: she was the first African-American to intern at the primarily White-staffed Harlem Hospital; the first woman of any race to respond to emergency calls with ambulance crews; and the first African-American woman physician in Harlem. She inspired the community when she opened her own practice to care for African-American patients who were not allowed treatment in white facilities.

Dr. Chinn was a tireless advocate for underserved and poor patients. While practicing medicine in Harlem for half a century, Dr. Chinn received many accolades—including an honorary doctorate of science in 1980 from NYU for her distinguished work throughout her career. Her pioneering cancer research work at the Strang Clinic began in 1944 and spanned 29 years. There, Dr. Chinn developed techniques for early cancer detection including consideration of personal and family medical histories. Today, we applaud Dr. Chinn's outstanding accomplishments and contributions to cancer research and community medicine in New York City.

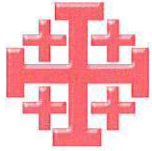
We hope that Community Board Six will approve a resolution to honor Dr. May Edward Chinn by co-naming a New York City street after her. It would be a wonderful testament to her and the legacy she leaves to the medical community and the people of New York.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Grossman".

Robert I. Grossman, MD

cc: Gilda-Ventresca-Ecroyd
Stephen Grayson
Michelle Winfield
Jesus Perez
Council Member Carlina Rivera
Katie Loeb



THE EQUESTRIAN ORDER OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE OF JERUSALEM
EASTERN LIEUTENANCY OF THE UNITED STATES
H.E. VICKI DOWNEY, DGCHS, *Lieutenant*

June 2022

Dear New York City Council

I write to you in support of the proposed legislation to co name the corner of 1st Avenue and 57th Street "Jimmy Neary Way". Mr. Neary was a dear friend to many here in New York and I am proud to consider myself one of them.

While most will remember Jimmy as what has to be one of the most amazing hard working success stories, working his way up from humble beginnings to hosting Presidents, Politicians and Prelates to name but a few in one of the most wonderful establishments in New Yorkmy fond memories will be those of the caring charitable gentleman.

I was so touched to hear the stories about the way he would go above and beyond for any one in need. From visiting housebound customers, usually taking lunch and dinner, long hospital visits where he would sit and read or just chat to the patient and of course the regular telephone calls just to check in with those he felt needed a boost. I feel this lesser-known side of Mr. Neary should be told and I know that there are many instances of his generous philanthropy which, being the most unassuming man, I ever met, he chose to keep quiet.

The word iconic is sometimes misused, but in this case, I truly feel it is warranted. Jimmy Neary was an Iconic New Yorker and one that truly deserves this wonderful honor.

Sincerely

H.E. Vicki Downey, DGCHS

**Jeanne M. Stafford
West End Avenue
Apartment
New York, New York 10023**

June 5, 2022

Ms. Julie Menin
New York City Council
RE: District 5 – “Jimmy Neary Way” co-naming
New York, New York

Dear Ms. Menin,

It is with glee that I recommend and strongly urge the New York City Council to consider a co-naming of 57th Street and First Avenue to “Jimmy Neary Way”.

Jimmy Neary left a mark of love on every human he encountered. People felt better about themselves having been in his presence. He loved what he did and was dedicated to doing it with grace. Jimmy’s roots as a New Yorker are the story the city needs to tell to strengthen itself for the city going forward.

Shining light on this great life by renaming this section of the world will ensure that others learn about him and the beautiful story of his rise to own his very own restaurant and to become an icon of his generation.

Jimmy adored being an American, New Yorker and Irish! You knew all this when you were with him. Along with family and friends I’ve been on the receiving end of this devotion Jimmy had for creating a home for visitors to Neary’s. This is a New York story we need to live on in the hearts and minds of those who knew him and those who need to know such a story existed.

Please vote YES, for Jimmy Neary Way!

Yours in Jimmy,

Jeanne M. Stafford

Dear New York City Council Members:

I love the New York City tradition of co-naming streets after great New Yorkers. I am not alone in looking up at some street sign and opening my phone to find out, "Who was that?" For those fortunate enough to have known Jimmy Neary, his family and friends, the countless patrons of Neary's pub over five plus decades, his memory looms large, his infectious optimism and kindness, his laugh and his many stories. But what about those who didn't know him, the passerby, the man walking his dog, the woman on her way to work, the Amazon delivery person? They would have loved to have known Jimmy Neary as well. He was a great American, a great New Yorker, and, above all else, a great human being. May we all honor and remember him for future generations by co-naming 57th and 1st Street "Jimmy Neary Way."

Thank you for your consideration,

Kevin M. Callahan
Norwalk, CT

June 6, 2022

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the proposal to have 57th Street and 1st Avenue co-named as “Jimmy Neary Way”.

Jimmy Neary was an Irish immigrant who embodied the American dream and who strongly valued his faith, family and country. He opened Neary’s restaurant on St. Patrick’s Day in 1967 and worked tirelessly until he died at age 91 in 2021. He’s a New York legend and loved and respected by all who knew him. Having 57th and 1st Avenue named Jimmy Neary Way would be a very deserving tribute this New York City icon. He is an inspiration to everyone that dreams do come true with hard work and perseverance.

Best,

Kristina Galligan

Valley View Dr.

Morristown NJ 07960

I believe 57th Street and 1st Avenue IS Jimmy Neary Way or so everyone visiting his establishment for the last 55 years believes. My husband & I lived on that block 24 years ago as newlyweds when we first stepped foot into Neary's restaurant and I can say all these years later, he WAS 57th street – the real deal New Yorker. What he did for the city, the people, and specifically that neighborhood for so many years must be acknowledge. Of course, he was acknowledged when thousands of Neary friends and family (and that's what you were when you dined at Neary's) paid their respects to this New York legend less than a year ago filling St. Patrick's Cathedral but he needs to be memorialized on HIS corner of 57th & 1st every day.

You'll be hard pressed to find anyone who loved life, his country, this city and Neary's restaurant more than Jimmy Neary. It's time to give back to Jimmy.

Laura & Todd Kijanka

DISTRICT 5
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATION
Julie Menin

What an excellent gesture for the NYC Council to consider having 57th Street and 1st Avenue co-named "JIMMY NEARY WAY".

Jimmy Neary was one of the dearest, kindest, most loving men we have ever been honored to know.

He loved New York almost as much as his homeland Ireland. He was proud of everything for which it stood. He always shared how New York opened her arms to him and his family.

His ONE-OF-A-KIND Irish Pub Restaurant was the very first place we would land each time we came to visit. We of course came for the amazing food, but really it was because of his smiling, warm, charming, welcoming way and lovely Irish accent.

For years we would call him on St Patrick's Day, and sing a medley of Irish tunes to him, he would join us on the other side of the phone loudly and clearly. He would first yell, "Listen, The Lennon Sisters are singing to me". It was our thrill. He was our friend.

It would be such a positive decision to forever immortalize this beautiful proud of New York citizen. We will miss his spirit forever.

Sincerely,
The Lennon Sisters
Kathleen Lennon Daris
kathydinker@gmail.com

June 6, 2022

Lisa Papel

This is a note nominating that the corner of first and 57th be renamed after James Neary,

He was a remarkable man who has made an incredible impact on so many people lives.

After all he does to give back to New York City.....I think it is an earned honor to thank him and his family by commemorating him by bestowing the honor of naming 57th and first avenue after James Neary.

Best,

**Lisa Koeppel Papel
lisapapel@me.com**

Neary's is widely and highly regarded as an original New York City institution by its many loyal patrons who have enjoyed the Neary family hospitality for over 50 years and counting!

The Late Mr. Jimmy Neary's journey to the United States is a fabulous one filled with determination and achievement to inspire all. Jimmy's vision and love of his customers was infectious! He would warmly introduce people to each other and create an atmosphere of close community. Jimmy Neary's unwavering dedication to his customers was unequalled.

Although Jimmy Neary started his business on 57th Street just off First Avenue over 50 years ago, my fiancée and I have been loyal patrons for over 15 years. We bring visitors to NYC to experience the care and great dining experience St. Patrick's, New Year's Eve and so many other holidays are favorite visits as are ones as simple as when we have finished a long day's work.

Dining with family is how I would describe the experience at Neary's. It was Jimmy Neary who envisioned and built Neary's into a beloved destination for young and old alike. Although we lost our dear Jimmy in 2021, his daughters, Una and Anne Marie continue the traditions that Jimmy instilled.

Naming 57th Street at First Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way" is a befitting way to memorialize all that Jimmy Neary has contributed to New York City, as well as celebrate the next generation on the Neary family who continues to serve the greater midtown Manhattan neighborhoods every day!

To: New York City Council

From: Michelle Deal Winfield

Date: Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Resident of Manhattan Community Board Six and State Democratic Woman 74th A.D.

I come before you to speak on behalf of hundreds of residents that have honored Dr. May Edward Chinn by signing petitions and letters requesting a street at the North West corner of East 29th Street and First Avenue in her honor. May E. Chinn, the unsung trailblazer, an African American woman physician, had a remarkable career in medicine and science. Graduating from Columbia University in 1921 with a B.S. in Science, May Chinn worked in the Pathology labs at Columbia University under the mentorship of Dr. Jean Broadhurst. In 1926, May E. Chinn was the first black woman to graduate from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, now known as New York University Grossman School of Medicine and lived at East 27th Street and Third Avenue, Manhattan. She then became the first Black woman intern at Harlem Hospital, 1926-1928. Dr. Chinn rode in ambulances with emergency crews saving patients before they reached the hospitals. Due to a segregated society, Dr. Chinn was denied hospital admitting privileges until 1940. Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia integrated Harlem hospital for all at that time. Dr. Chinn had established with other Negro doctors, a private practice at the Edgecombe Sanitarium in Harlem, treating women and children for over 50 years. Many of her patients she treated, could not afford to pay fees. In 1933, Chinn worked with Dr. George N. Papanicolaou and contributed to his studies on the Pap test, now known as the Pap smear. As noted on the Strang Cancer Prevention Institute website, Dr Chinn worked there for 29 years and has a place in history as one of the doctors who worked on early detection of cancer of the cervix. This breakthrough resulted in the Pap test saving millions of women's lives.

Finally, in 1980 Columbia University honored Dr. May Edward Chinn as a Distinguished Alumnus and awarded her an honorary doctorate in science for her contributions to medicine.

I urge you to co-name East 29th Street and First Avenue, NW corner, **Dr. May Edward Chinn Place**, for a trailblazer in the fight against cervical cancer benefitting women worldwide. Thank you.

From: Tina Santi Flaherty tina@tinaflaherty.com
Subject: Letter
Date: June 6, 2022 at 1:36 PM
To: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com



Dear Una,

What special news to hear that there is a motion underway to name 57th and 1st "Jimmy Neary way," as it is so warranted. As I don't know who to exactly send my endorsement letter to, I am forwarding it to you:

To whom it may concern:

I hardly endorse the proposal to name 57th and 1st "Jimmy Neary Way". Whenever I pass 57th and 1st, my first thought is of Jimmy Neary and all the sparkle and hope he brought to NEARY's. Jimmy was one-of-a-kind and treated anyone who came into NEARY's as a friend. He loved America and all that it stood for- and will never be forgotten by those who knew him. He deserves this honor more than anyone that I can think of.

Tina Santi Flaherty
Author of What Jackie Taught Us
NOW STREAMING ON NETFLIX
JACKIE: A TALE OF TWO SISTERS

1040 Fifth Avenue
Penthouse
New York, NY 10028
Office: (212) 535-0025
iPhone: (917) 536-2032
Fax: (212) 535-1027
Email: tina@tinaflaherty.com

"We shall not fail or falter; we shall not weaken or tire. Neither the sudden shock of battle, nor the long-drawn trials of vigilance and exertion will wear us down. Give us the tools, and we will finish the job."

Winston Spencer Churchill
1940

Sent from my iPhone

**K. Deane Reade, Jr. Pamela L. Bimson
East 77th.Street
New York, N.Y. 10162**

June 6, 2022

Hon. Julie Menin Councilwoman/Member
New York City Council- Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Sitings, and Dispositions
250 Broadway
New York, NY 1000

Re: Proposed Naming of 1st Avenue & 57th.Street, New York City as Jimmy Neary Way

Dear Councilwoman Menin,

We heartily endorse your proposed naming of 57th.Street and 1st Avenue as Jimmy Neary Way.

Our first address in NYC was at 1st Avenue and 72nd. Street back in the Giuliani 70's. Prior to our marriage my wife Pamela, who as a newcomer to the City needed to cash an Arizona bank check after the banks closed to get her car repaired. At the time I was traveling but called Jimmy to ask if he would accommodate her request so she could take care of her car repairs.

As always, Jimmy the gentleman told Kevin who was tending bar, if a young blond woman looking no more than 18 years of age in a pony tail showed up, to cash her check and offer her dinner.

Ever since, Jimmy Neary has been her "Knight In Shining Armor", and over the last 50 + years we've enjoyed raising and treating three sons on Jimmy's wonderful fare, fabulous camaraderie and neighborly ambience.

Given the City's current challenges we can think of no greater way to commemorate the American Dream than to honor this humble man of the people as you propose, for his extraordinary and graceful accomplishments as one of the City's preeminent ambassadors.

Sincerely,

Deane and Pamela

NYC Council

Ny . NY

6 June 2022 (78th D -Day)

Hearing : Co-Naming 57th and 1st Ave –“Jimmy Neary Way”

Distinguished Council Members:

I write in support of a proposed action to co-name the intersection of %7th St and 1 st avenue to honor the memory of Jimmy Neary an adopted son of The Us and especially NYC. Since his arrival in America over 60 years ago Jimmy sought to do all in his power to become a model citizen and contribute markedly to his adopted home. His restaurant became a home away from home for locals, dignitaries and visitors from far and wide.

Anyone coming into his establishment were treated as family or long friends. He brought out the most in convivial human interchange. He was a ambassador for NYC and a keen supporter of all that made NYC special and a place of welcome.

He was a consistent supporter of all things civic cultural and religious. His beaming demeanor, his humor, his grace and knowledge stood out as exemplars of friendship, affection and as a model of citizenship.

NYC would be most proud to honor this gentle giant.

Sincerely,

Peter G O’Neill col USA (ret)

Howard Koepfel & Mark Hsiao
East 57th St,
New York, NY 10022

June 6, 2022

To: Hon Julie Menin
District 5, New York City Council

Dear Ms ~~Menin~~ ^{Julie},

We are writing you to highly recommend in favor of the proposal to name East 57th St and First Ave as "**Jimmy Neary Way.**" I (Howard Koepfel), first started going to Neary's in 1976. It had always been and continues to be a warm and welcoming place (think "Cheers") and me and my husband, Mark Hsiao, who as a newbie who started going there with me in 1992, always think of it as our "Home Away From Home." Indeed, whenever we took a trip out of the city, whether it was a week or a month, the place we went to before we left and the place we went to right after coming back was Neary's. Even our 11-year-old twin girls, Isabella & Sophia, have joined us on numerous occasions, often celebrating birthdays (including of course Jimmy Neary himself!), reunions, family get togethers, holidays, and of course the famous St. Patrick's Day Celebrations (which lasted all week if not all month). The girls even "danced" with Cardinal Egan on one St. Pat's occasion. Neary's is indelibly etched in our minds and hearts and it is with great excitement that 57th St and First could be named the "**Jimmy Neary Way!**"

Sincerely,



Howard Koepfel & Mark Hsiao
cc. Una Neary

**Michael P. Stafford
Kathleen M. Stafford
Sutton Place South,
New York, NY 10022**

MEMORANDUM


TO: City Council, City of New York
FROM: Michael P. Stafford and Kathleen M. Stafford
DATE: June 7, 2022
SUBJECT: Jimmy Neary Way

Please add our wholehearted support to the City Council's Proposal to co-name East 57th Street and First Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way."

We can think of no other action by the Council that would better symbolize the core values of New York City.

Jimmy came to the City from Ireland in 1954, and through hard work, determination, faith and integrity, became an icon as the beloved proprietor of his own restaurant at 57th and First, where his family carries on his legacy. He was also a proud U.S. Army Veteran.

Jimmy's well-documented ascent from poor immigrant to respected entrepreneur should serve as an inspiration to all New Yorkers even today. The City Council's public recognition of Jimmy is certainly warranted, particularly in the neighborhood where, night after night for more than 50 years, he shared his love of New York and America with all his grateful patrons!

From: Lisa Molinari molinariREALTOR@gmail.com 
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 6, 2022 at 6:29 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com

LM

If it were possible, Jimmy Neary would have stood, larger than life, in the middle of New York Harbor to welcome all to this land of opportunity. With a huge smile on his face and a twinkle in his eye, we can imagine him saying “I Love This Country – God Bless America”.


Well, since that post was already taken, Jimmy settled in at E 57th Street and 1st Avenue, and for over a half century, welcomed every single person who walked through the doors at Neary’s with the same smile and warm welcome. And so, it’s only fitting that we keep his memory alive by designating the corner of E 57th Street and 1st Avenue - Jimmy Neary Way!



LISA MOLINARI

REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST

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 MolinariRealtor@gmail.com

 lisamolinari.com

20 Madison Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960

WEICHERT REALTORS MAIN OFFICE - 973.538.8000



From: Gail Koch comsearch@aol.com
Subject: Jimmy's
Date: June 6, 2022 at 8:12 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com

I really want to share with you my feeling about Jimmy Neary. I cannot regale you with all the personnel experiences with Jimmy. That is not enough. Jimmy Neary creating a sense of community. Not only did he have a pride in America, but he respectful of a difference of opinion in his political views . If anyone should have an area named for him, it should be Jimmy Neary, He encompassed the American Dream!

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

From: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 7, 2022 at 7:32 AM
To: Jane Friedman jane.friedman2@gmail.com

On Jun 7, 2022, at 12:08 AM, Jane Friedman <jane.friedman2@gmail.com> wrote:

I have been living on 57th Street for 48 years.
And Neary's has been a landmark for us all.

When people ask me where I live, I always say "down the block from Neary's." That sums it up. -
There could be nothing more fitting than to honor Jimmy this way

My best to you all,
Jane Friedman

Sent from my iPhone

From: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Jimmy Neary
Date: June 7, 2022 at 7:37 AM
To: Merris Larkin mlarkin@assumptionnj.org

On Jun 6, 2022, at 3:11 PM, Merris Larkin <mlarkin@assumptionnj.org> wrote:

I would like to put my vote in to have 57th and 1st ave co-named in honor of Jimmy Neary. Jimmy was a "man for all seasons" in NYC. Jimmy was small in stature but big of heart and soul for NYC. The city was one of the great loves of his life. What a treat and experience to walk along 57th street and know you were walking right along with Jimmy Neary.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sister Merris Larkin

Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (another wonderful New Yorker)

Sherif K. Moussa
East 50th Street,
New York, NY 10022

June 6, 2022

Julie Menin
250 Broadway, Suite 1821
New York, NY 10007

Dear Councilwoman Menin:

Thank you so much for introducing legislation to co-name 57th Street and 1st Avenue as "Jimmy Neary Way". My name is Sherif Moussa and I am a Manhattan resident, local business owner and longtime patron of Neary's.

As you know, the late Jimmy Neary was the inimitable and iconic founder and proprietor of Neary's from 1967 until the time of his passing in late 2021. During this time, he hosted luminaries from a variety of professions, including some of our country's most prominent, influential and celebrated individuals. Like many of our neighbors and colleagues, my wife and I have enjoyed meeting with other family members, local friends, business associates and out of town guests at Neary's for many years. It is a delightful and joyful place. But Neary's is more than just a local business, it is a symbol of the American dream situated right in the heart of America's greatest city.

So I write you in support of this legislation and ask that you do what you can to have it passed. Doing so will help ensure that Jimmy's memory and legacy is honored and commemorated by our community. In turn, that will serve to inspire others to enrich and brighten our city, as Jimmy did for so long, for years to come.

Warmest Regards,

Sherif K. Moussa

From: Tracey Seebode seebodetracey@gmail.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary's co-naming
Date: June 6, 2022 at 1:18 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com
Cc: Victor.A.Aergwall@wellsfargo.com



We are all aware of the excellent dining establishment that Jimmy Neary has created over the past 55 years. There is another part of Jimmy's life that needs to be told.

Jimmy was a patriot and he had great pride in America, especially New York City. Shortly after he immigrated to America from Ireland, he was drafted into the US Army for 2 years and was assigned to a tank battalion and shipped to the Fulda Pass in Germany. This pass was a potential site for invasions during the Cold War. Through the years he had always given special attention and accommodation to members of the military. Jimmy was an honorary member of the 69th (the Fighting 69th) Regiment. As a result of his avid support of the Navy Seal Foundation, he was awarded the Trident Pin which he wore every day thereafter. He was also awarded by Colonel Ryan of the Army the last flag that flew over Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan.

As a result of these accomplishments we respectfully support the co-naming of 57th Street and 1st Avenue to Jimmy Neary Way.

Respectfully,
V.A. Bergwall 1st Lieutenant U.S.M.C (ret.)

I, Cynthia B. Moran, think its only fitting that East 57th Street to 1st Avenue should indeed be co-named after Jimmy Neary!

Jimmy's place of business has been a wonderful neighbor for more than 50 years, bringing clientle from Sutton Place and many other neighborhoods in the area. His employees have been loyal friends arid for more than 40 years.

Jimmy was a former United States Army Veteran, a patriotic American citizen, and welcomed United States Presidents, New York City Mayors, dignitaries from near and far and welcomed everyone equally.

Jimmy was also a very charitable person who supported vigorously many causes in and around New York City, namely Sloane Kettering Cancer Center, Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Mary Manning Hospital for Women, and many too numerous to list.

We need heroes currently, and Jimmy was an Irish born all American hero. Please seriously consider his name at the top of your list.

GEORGE J. KHOURI
ATTORNEY AT LAW
110 EAST 59TH STREET
22ND FLOOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022
(212) 688-4021

E-MAIL: GJKHOURI@AOL.COM

FACSIMILE: (212) 223-4912

June 4, 2022

Re Jimmy Neary

To whom it may concern:

My wife, Margee, and I have been going to Neary's Restaurant with our friends for some time. Although the food at Neary's is always delicious, the late Jimmy Neary, his children and the always helpful and gracious staff were the reason that we love this restaurant so much. Dinner at Neary's is always so much fun! Dinner at Neary's is like attending a party hosted by one's best friends.

One time, we brought Margee's childhood friend and her daughter who has Down Syndrome. Jimmy, his children and staff helped us celebrate her 40th birthday. Not only did they arrange for a special cake but they had an opera singer serenade the birthday girl with "Happy Birthday"! Jimmy always knew how to fuss over you.

Sincerely,


George J. Khouri

GJK:mk

From: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Co-Naming 57th Street and 1st "Jimmy Neary Way"
Date: June 7, 2022 at 7:41 AM
To: Jim Normile jsnormile@gmail.com

On Jun 5, 2022, at 6:30 AM, Jim Normile <jsnormile@gmail.com> wrote:

Great idea. Please submit this on my behalf:

To NYC Council,

I wholeheartedly support renaming 57 and 1st as Jimmy Neary Way. He was the anchor of the neighborhood and known to all. His smile brightened that corner of our city and this is a very appropriate way to honor his memory.

Best,

Jim Normile.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sandi Schneider sandis440@gmail.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary
Date: June 6, 2022 at 4:35 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com



Jimmy was the most patriotic guy we ever knew! At his birthday celebration every year, God Bless America came before Happy Birthday! Most deserving of this honor!
Sandi & Harvey Schneider

From: Robert Dunn randjdunn@nyc.rr.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way, East 57 Street and 1st Ave
Date: June 6, 2022 at 4:02 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com



How fitting it is to name this place on East 57th Street in honor of Jimmy Neary who warmly greeted New Yorkers there for decades at his restaurant. He was the real deal.
Joan and Bob Dunn

Sent from my iPhone



From: Deirdre Brennan deirdrebrennan57@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: Jimmy
Date: June 6, 2022 at 11:31 AM
To: umneary@gmail.com
Cc: David Brennan dbbmel@aol.com

Hi Una,

Here is a letter of support that David wrote for Jimmy Neary Way! What a fantastic idea and we couldn't agree more. Good luck and keep us posted!

xox

Deirdre

----- Forwarded message -----

From: DAVID BRENNAN <dbbmel@aol.com>
Date: Mon, Jun 6, 2022 at 11:24 AM
Subject: Jimmy
To: Deirdre Brennan <deirdrebrennan57@gmail.com>

Dear City Council,

We are writing to advocate for the naming of 57th Street as Jimmy Neary way. We live 2 doors down from Neary's and it is a wonderful place where "everyone knows your name." For years Jimmy has been known in the neighborhood as the Mayor. Whenever you went to Nearys, Jimmy would meet you with a grand smile and always have a story to tell. It was a privilege to attend his annual "surprise" birthday party which ended with an enthusiastic rendition of "God Bless America". My Dad knew Jimmy going back to his early days as a bartender at P.J. Moriarty's and Jimmy graciously hosted my Dad and Mom to his place which was one of their special evenings. I cannot think of a better tribute to acknowledge what those of us in the neighborhood have been doing for years—that is to recognize Jimmy's importance to our neighborhood. If anyone deserves such a tribute, it is Jimmy Neary. When the film was made about Jimmy, he invited all his customers to ride in a bus he chartered to view the screening at the Cardinal Sheehan Film Center and then he treated everyone after the film to Champagne and cake. The other big night was of course, St. Patrick's Day. We were there on MArch 16th 2020 when it was celebrated the day before the shutdown. The reopening of Nearys post covid provided a comforting restoration to normalcy and his place was once again full of the regulars who came to rely on a good meal, surrounded by friends and of course the ever dapper smiling Jimmy greeting each table and making us all feel special. Una and the family and long serving staff have kept the flame alive and deserve this tribute as much as Jimmy!

Please change our street name to Jimmy Neary way. It is a proper tribute to a man who always said this was the best city in the world and that because of his restaurant he loved his life.

Best Regards,

David & Deirdre Brennan
East 57th (aka Jimmy Neary Way)
NY NY 10022

Sent from my iPad

I, Cynthia B. Moran, think its only fitting that East 57th Street to 1st Avenue should indeed be co-named after Jimmy Neary!

Jimmy's place of business has been a wonderful neighbor for more than 50 years, bringing clientle from Sutton Place and many other neighborhoods in the area. His employees have been loyal friends and for more than 40 years.

Jimmy was a former United States Army Veteran, a patriotic American citizen, and welcomed United States Presidents, New York City Mayors, dignitaries from near and far and welcomed everyone equally.

Jimmy was also a very charitable person who supported vigorously many causes in and around New York City, namely Sloane Kettering Cancer Center, Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Mary Manning Hospital for Women, and many too numerous to list.

We need heroes currently, and Jimmy was an Irish born all American hero. Please seriously consider his name at the top of your list.

The naming of a street often reflects the neighborhood or a person who was associated with that neighborhood. In both instances, it is both appropriate and meaningful that 57th and 1st Ave be co-named "Jimmy Neary Way."

Founded on St Patrick's Day, 55 years ago, Neary's has been a destination for thousands of loyal customers, who come because the restaurant is a reflection of its founder, Jimmy Neary.

Jimmy's smile was enveloping and exuded a warmth and a deep appreciation for every customer's business. Jimmy made us feel that we were members of the Neary family.

Naming 57th and 1st "Jimmy Neary Way" will pay tribute to an extraordinary man whose way touched many people.

Linda and Bill Kaye

From: Rick Helfenbein <rhelfen@gmail.com>

Date: June 7, 2022 at 7:56:01 AM EDT

To: Una Neary <umneary@gmail.com>

Subject: Proposal: to have 57th Street and 1st Avenue co-named as "Jimmy Neary Way".

Moving to Manhattan can be a daunting experience unless, of course, you had the incredible opportunity to have met Jimmy Neary.

As my wife and I wandered into Neary's on 57th Street several years ago, we were greeted by Jimmy - and we felt right at home. In fact, Jimmy immediately wound us into his web of family, staff, fellow diners, and friends. If, on any day, you entered his world without a smile, he gave you his own. There is no one more worthy to have a valued corner of Manhattan named after – than the consummate host himself – Jimmy Neary – a person whose name is larger than life itself and a name that should live on forever.

Rick & Harriet Helfenbein

Rick Helfenbein

Sutton Place So

New York, NY 10022

Rose M. Purrazzella, M.D.
Sutton Place,
New York, New York 10022

To: Members of the City Council

Re: Honoring Jimmy Neary

I am writing in support of honoring Jimmy Neary by naming the corner of 57th and First Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way". He was one of the most ebullient and kind people I know. He always greeted us with a smile, asked after family, and how we were doing. People in the neighborhood who wouldn't normally see each other managed to connect at Neary's.

If he didn't see someone who was elderly for a while, he would reach out to them to see what if anything was the matter. He was always thinking of others and trying to make them feel cared for and wanted.

He cared for his employees, considering them family, and they returned it with loyalty. No one had a negative word to say about him.

Everyone misses his smile and handshake. Having the sign "Jimmy Neary Way" would make us all in the neighborhood smile as we pass it, thinking of him. I strongly urge you to pass this. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rose M. Purrazzella

To: NYC Council

Re: Street Naming" Jimmy Neary Way"

Hello NYC Council Members,

As a lifelong New York City Resident and currently a 20 + years resident of Sutton Place... I wish to raise my voice... along with my Wife Jenny... to join the chorus of others in strongly supporting adding Mr. Neary's name to E-57th St @ 1st Ave.

It was here on E.57th ST. and as a recent arrival from his original home in Sligo Ireland, that Mr Neary, whom was "Jimmy" to all, opened his iconic namesake Restaurant on St. Patrick's Day in 1965.

With determination, hard work, a very dedicated staff, many who would be lifelong members of his team, that then add to this mix is a good dose of that fabled "luck of the Irish' and his own bountiful personality success found its way to Neary's.

Neary's would become more than an excellent Restaurant for his Customers. Rather it has become a bonified meeting place for Friends...a go-to place for many people from far and wide. All were always greeted by Jimmy with a warm and genuine welcome.

In an Industry that is not short on adversity and failure. Neary's to this very day is one of New York City's iconic and enduring Restaurants. Jimmy was equally a most iconic and loved individual.

It is proper and most reasonable to honor our good friend Jimmy Neary by so adding the designation of "Jimmy Neary Way" to E. 57th St.

Our best regards

John & Jenny Delaney

E- 57th St

NYC N.Y.

From: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: KLG note about Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 8, 2022 at 3:47 PM
To: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com



I spent 40 years living and working in NYC and I cannot think of one single person who deserves this honor more than my precious, beloved friend, Jimmy Neary. There truly was no more grateful man than Jimmy. He was completely devoted to the community he served by greeting locals and tourists alike into his iconic restaurant. People came away with a true living, welcoming example of New York's hospitality. He made people happy. He was genuinely a good and righteous man.

Kathie Lee Gifford

June 7, 2022

Regarding Jimmy Neary Way.

To whom it may concern,

I am Jimmy Neary's son-in-law and am married to Ann Marie. I met Jimmy for the first time in 2000 at the restaurant on 57th St. I walked in and was greeted with a big smile, a handshake and a "How you doin'?" I remember sitting down in one of the booths in the corner making small talk until he started to talk about how much he loved NYC and this country. He told me about how he sold a couple of dozen sheep in order to purchase his ticket to America and then all of the jobs he held at famous establishments in the city as well as all the famous people and places he met and worked for along the way, he loved every minute of it and often said that only in America could an Irish immigrant with limited schooling make it to where he was today.

Jimmy loved his slice of NYC located at 57th and 1st, he was the city's biggest defender through the good times and bad and always told people it was the greatest city in the world. He was a true advocate for the City of New York and was happy to talk about it if he could find someone to listen. He enjoyed entertaining NYC's many characters, politicians, and captains of business as well as local neighborhood friends. He was The Hosts of Hosts on 57th St and truly deserves to have his small corner of NYC named after him.

Respectfully,

Victor "Chip" Bergwall

C. Edmonds Allen
East 54th Street -
New York, N.Y. 10022
212-355-3324

6 June 2022

Re Renaming 57th Street and First Avenue
"Jimmy Neary Way"

New York City Council
City Hall
New York, N.Y. 10007

Dear Members of the Council:

I write to endorse the changing the name of 57th Street and First Avenue to "Jimmy Neary Way."

I have lived on 54th and First Avenue for over 50 years and watched the neighborhood change in remarkable ways.

There is one place that has never changed and that is Neary's Restaurant at 358 East 57th Street between First and Second Avenues. Jimmy immigrated from County Sligo many years ago and served in the US Army during World War II. He worked at the New York Athletic Club before becoming a bartender at P.J. Moriarty's on 63rd and Third Avenue which later moved to 62nd and Third.

He opened "Neary's" on St. Patrick's day 55 years ago and it became world famous. Regular customers included Jean Kennedy Smith, Pat Lawford, Ted Kennedy, Barbara Taylor Bradford, George McGovern, Jonathan Bush, Cardinals Egan and Dolan, Hugh Carey, Ray Kelly (the Police Commissioner) and Mayor Michael Bloomberg who had dinner almost every Sunday evening while he was mayor and is a frequent visitor.

Jimmy was a unique gentleman. The restaurant was open 364 days a year (except Christmas) and Jimmy was there every night to greet his guests. He not only remembered their names but their entire life's stories. Despite being about 5'5" he was a giant among men for his warmth, kindness and generosity. Sadly, he passed away last year at the age of 91 but his memory lives on with his daughters, Una and Ann Marie, who are present every night.

Neary's is a place where lasting friendships are made and patrons are family.

I hope that you will consider naming 57th Street and First Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way" as no one in the history of New York has deserved more to be remembered by the street that he made famous and a destination for thousands of hungry and thirsty friends.

Sincerely yours,



**The Zaino Family
E. 57th Street,
New York, New York 10022**

June 6, 2022

Julie Menin
250 Broadway, Suite 1821
New York, NY 10007

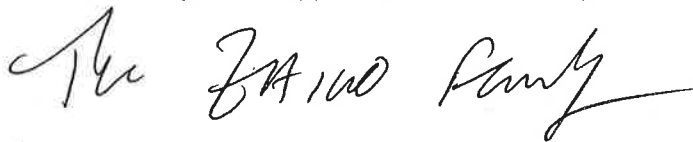
Dear Councilwoman Menin,

We are so happy to hear that you introduced legislation to co-name 57th Street and 1st Avenue as "Jimmy Neary Way". Maria and Michael have been patrons of Neary's since 2004, when we moved to our current address, and Samantha (16), Julia (14) and Christina (13) have been patrons, well, since birth. They literally don't know life without Neary's!

In operating Neary's since he founded it in 1967, Jimmy Neary has managed to make an indelible imprint on our neighborhood providing the most prominent luminaries, including Presidents, Governors and Mayors, noted celebrities, and some of the most accomplished businesspeople in our society (which being in New York City, means the most accomplished businesspeople in the world!) with a delightful, happy and comfortable place to call their own. But the notable list of patrons is not Jimmy's greatest accomplishment. Jimmy created a neighborhood gem, an establishment that helps define the character of the neighborhood, and a place that everyone in the neighborhood feels belongs to them, a home away from home. That fantastic and wonderful contribution is what attracted such high-profile customers. They are all coming to the future "Jimmy Neary Way" to get a piece of what we have, of what Jimmy built for our neighborhood.

So I write you in support of this legislation and implore that you support with it whatever means you have to get it passed. Honoring Jimmy's legacy is the right thing to do, and will undoubtedly help sow the seeds for the next Jimmy Neary to come along and add another gem to our neighborhood.

With the greatest appreciation and sincerity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "The Zaino Family". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Zaino Family

June 7, 2022

Ms. Julie Menin, Councilwoman
250 Broadway, Suite 1821
New York, New York 10007

Dear Councilwoman Menin,

Thank you so much for introducing legislation to co-name 57th Street and First Avenue as "Jimmy Neary Way".

What an honor and a privilege it is for the family, friends and long time patrons of his iconic establishment. Jimmy was the epitome of the American dream and personified the values our nation was founded on. His hardworking example, his honest devotion to those who knew and loved him, his non-judgmental embrace of all those he met and his understanding of sacrifice for the greater good are the character traits that we need to be strongly reminded of today in the city he loved and gave so much to.

His fortitude through the decades, his temperance, prudence and sense of justice are qualities whose presence is felt in those whose lives he touched. It would be ever more impactful to have a physical presence of his name on the street in the city where his positive, generosity, integrity and goodness can signal a reminder for all to act in kind.

Thank you for your action in introducing this legislation and for all you can do to help make it happen.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Hausler

From: Jane Friedman jane.friedman2@gmail.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 7, 2022 at 12:09 AM
To: umneary@gmail.com

I have been living on 57th Street for 48 years.
And Neary's has been a landmark for us all.

When people ask me where I live, I always say "down the block from Neary's." That sums it up.
There could be nothing more fitting than to honor
Jimmy this way.

My best to you all,
Jane Friedman

Sent from my iPhone

From: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: Co-Naming 57th Street and 1st "Jimmy Neary Way"
Date: June 8, 2022 at 3:54 PM
To:



From: noriosato1@earthlink.net <noriosato1@earthlink.net>
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 6:09 PM
To: junkosato1@earthlink.net
Subject: RE: Co-Naming 57th Street and 1st "Jimmy Neary Way"

Dear Una,

It is our great pleasure and honor to give a full support for co-naming 57th Street and 1st Avenue the "Jimmy Neary Way". We strongly believe that his legacy as an immigrant way to his success in business is, of course, great, but it is not enough at all to tell his entirety of life in the US. Jimmy's humanity and chactor must be discussed seriously more than anything else. He was genuinely a person for everybody without any discrimination by race, gender, age and any category of people. Jimmy loved people from the bottom of his heart. He was a man of integrity and always trying hard to do good for people according to his principle. He knew that it was his mission given by the Lord.

We have no hesitation to support the proposal for the "Jimmy Neary Way" . As residents of Sutton Place, we sincerely hope this proposal will come through, and Jimmy Neary's name will be remembered from generation to g e n e r a t i o n among our neibours..

Norio and Junko Sato
East 54th Street,
New York, New York 10022

To: Committee on Parks & Recreation

To whom it may concern,

My husband Robert and I support the initiative of Council member Julie Menin to co-name 57th Street and First Avenue “Jimmy Neary Way.” It will be a fitting recognition of an individual who contributed so much to our city and, more specifically, to our neighborhood.

Neary’s Restaurant has been a landmark in our neighborhood for many decades as well as a destination for travelers from other countries for whom the restaurant and its owner, Jimmy Neary, were true symbols of the American success story.

To neighbors like us, Jimmy provided a warm and always welcome to those who frequented his establishment. Everyone who knew him loved Jimmy and looked forward to running into him on the street as he walked the neighborhood, providing support for neighborhood vendors as well as some of the older folks who felt that Neary’s was a second home—both in the warmth of his personality and the hospitality of his staff. All of us feel privileged to have called him a friend.

Naming this little corner of midtown after Jimmy Neary, one of this city’s biggest fans and supporters, is exactly the right thing to do! Thanks so much for considering this honor to a wonderful man and patriot!

Sincerely,

Nancy Burke Solomon

Patricia Doherty
East 57th Street
New York, NY 10022

June 6, 2022

New York City Council Members:

It was with great pleasure that I learned of the proposal to rename the corner of First Avenue and 57th Street in honor of Jimmy Neary. At any time, “Jimmy Neary Way” would be a great addition to the neighborhood—even more so now as the city emerges from lockdown. The Sutton area, like so many others, is littered with empty storefronts—Neary’s is a bastion that has endured the city’s good times and bad. Jimmy believed in New York and his daughters Una and Anne Marie have kept that spirit alive. Let’s recognize a true New Yorker (by way of Tubbercurry, Sligo) with a new sign on the block reading “ Jimmy Neary Way”.

Jimmy Neary exemplified the American dream and even before attaining citizenship served in the U.S. military protect it. He was a man of faith, honor and integrity who welcomed all with a firm handshake and a warm smile. His iconic establishment was “the regular” of presidents, governors, mayors, princes of industry, the rich, the famous and just folks like me who have been going there for 55 years. Stories like his deserve to be memorialized. I implore you to do so.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to a positive decision and a glorious celebration upon the unveiling of “Jimmy Neary Way” at First Avenue and 57th Street.

Sincerely,

Patricia Doherty

RAYMOND & MARY TEATUM

East End Avenue –
New York, New York 10028

Chairman
Council of the City of New York
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

We join the many friends of Jimmy Neary, a renowned restaurateur for over 50 years on the Eastside of Manhattan and in recognition of his many accomplishments over these many years, in requesting the co-naming of East 57th Street and First Avenue – “Jimmy Neary Way”.

Neary’s Restaurant known as the “Irish ‘21’ Club” has hosted U.S. presidents, most of New York’s governors and mayors most especially Mayor Michael Bloomberg who frequented Neary’s on a regular basis for dinner. Jimmy also entertained famous celebrities such as Maureen O’Hara, Mary Higgins Clark, numerous members of the Kennedy family and Cardinal Timothy Dolan to name a few.

Jimmy Neary’s life is “a true success story” coming from Ireland as a young man, working at different jobs until he eventually saved enough to buy a building on East 57th Street to open his own restaurant. Through his endearing personality, Jimmy made “Neary’s” a very successful and welcoming place to dine. Sadly Jimmy Neary passed away last year at the age of 91 and now his children are carrying on his tradition of hospitality to all who pass through the doors of Neary’s Restaurant. What now is missed the most is seeing Jimmy’s warm and smiling face welcoming you as you entered, bringing you to your table and walking around the dining room making sure everyone was enjoying themselves as well as their meal. He also loved conversing with his customers and would on many occasions sit down at a table to have an enjoyable conversation.

It is, therefore, so fitting that this honor be bestowed upon Jimmy Neary who was “a legend” in New York for the past 52 years, who epitomized what it was to be a proud son of Ireland and New York and will always be remembered with fond memories by his family and friends.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond & Mary Teatum

From: Tina Santi Flaherty tina@tinaflaherty.com
Subject: Letter
Date: June 6, 2022 at 1:36 PM
To: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com



Dear Una,

What special news to hear that there is a motion underway to name 57th and 1st "Jimmy Neary way," as it is so warranted. As I don't know who to exactly send my endorsement letter to, I am forwarding it to you:

To whom it may concern:

I hardly endorse the proposal to name 57th and 1st "Jimmy Neary Way". Whenever I pass 57th and 1st, my first thought is of Jimmy Neary and all the sparkle and hope he brought to NEARY's. Jimmy was one-of-a-kind and treated anyone who came into NEARY's as a friend. He loved America and all that it stood for- and will never be forgotten by those who knew him. He deserves this honor more than anyone that I can think of.

Tina Santi Flaherty
Author of What Jackie Taught Us
NOW STREAMING ON NETFLIX
JACKIE: A TALE OF TWO SISTERS

1040 Fifth Avenue
Penthouse
New York, NY 10028
Office: (212) 535-0025
iPhone: (917) 536-2032
Fax: (212) 535-1027
Email: tina@tinaflaherty.com

"We shall not fail or falter; we shall not weaken or tire. Neither the sudden shock of battle, nor the long-drawn trials of vigilance and exertion will wear us down. Give us the tools, and we will finish the job."

Winston Spencer Churchill
1940

Sent from my iPhone

**K. Deane Reade, Jr. Pamela L. Bimson
500 East 77th.Street
New York, N.Y. 10162**

June 6, 2022

Hon. Julie Menin Councilwoman/Member
New York City Council- Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Sitings, and Dispositions
250 Broadway
New York, NY 1000

Re: Proposed Naming of 1st Avenue & 57th.Street, New York City as Jimmy Neary Way

Dear Councilwoman Menin,

We heartily endorse your proposed naming of 57th.Street and 1st Avenue as Jimmy Neary Way.

Our first address in NYC was at 1st Avenue and 72nd. Street back in the Giuliani 70's. Prior to our marriage my wife Pamela, who as a newcomer to the City needed to cash an Arizona bank check after the banks closed to get her car repaired. At the time I was traveling but called Jimmy to ask if he would accommodate her request so she could take care of her car repairs.

As always, Jimmy the gentleman told Kevin who was tending bar, if a young blond woman looking no more than 18 years of age in a pony tail showed up, to cash her check and offer her dinner.

Ever since, Jimmy Neary has been her "Knight In Shining Armor", and over the last 50 + years we've enjoyed raising and treating three sons on Jimmy's wonderful fare, fabulous camaraderie and neighborly ambience.

Given the City's current challenges we can think of no greater way to commemorate the American Dream than to honor this humble man of the people as you propose, for his extraordinary and graceful accomplishments as one of the City's preeminent ambassadors.

Sincerely,

Deane and Pamela

NYC Council

Ny . NY

6 June 2022 (78th D -Day)

Hearing : Co-Naming 57th and 1st Ave –“Jimmy Neary Way”

Distinguished Council Members:

I write in support of a proposed action to co-name the intersection of %7th St and 1 st avenue to honor the memory of Jimmy Neary an adopted son of The Us and especially NYC. Since his arrival in America over 60 years ago Jimmy sought to do all in his power to become a model citizen and contribute markedly to his adopted home. His restaurant became a home away from home for locals, dignitaries and visitors from far and wide.

Anyone coming into his establishment were treated as family or long friends. He brought out the most in convivial human interchange. He was a ambassador for NYC and a keen supporter of all that made NYC special and a place of welcome.

He was a consistent supporter of all things civic cultural and religious. His beaming demeanor, his humor, his grace and knowledge stood out as exemplars of friendship, affection and as a model of citizenship.

NYC would be most proud to honor this gentle giant.

Sincerely,

Peter G O’Neill col USA (ret)

Howard Koepfel & Mark Hsiao
303 East 57th St, Apt 43F
New York, NY 10022

June 6, 2022

To: Hon Julie Menin
District 5, New York City Council

Dear Ms ~~Menin~~ *Julie*,

We are writing you to highly recommend in favor of the proposal to name East 57th St and First Ave as "**Jimmy Neary Way.**" I (Howard Koepfel), first started going to Neary's in 1976. It had always been and continues to be a warm and welcoming place (think "Cheers") and me and my husband, Mark Hsiao, who as a newbie who started going there with me in 1992, always think of it as our "Home Away From Home." Indeed, whenever we took a trip out of the city, whether it was a week or a month, the place we went to before we left and the place we went to right after coming back was Neary's. Even our 11-year-old twin girls, Isabella & Sophia, have joined us on numerous occasions, often celebrating birthdays (including of course Jimmy Neary himself!), reunions, family get togethers, holidays, and of course the famous St. Patrick's Day Celebrations (which lasted all week if not all month). The girls even "danced" with Cardinal Egan on one St. Pat's occasion. Neary's is indelibly etched in our minds and hearts and it is with great excitement that 57th St and First could be named the "**Jimmy Neary Way!**"

Sincerely,



Howard Koepfel & Mark Hsiao
cc. Una Neary

**Michael P. Stafford
Kathleen M. Stafford
45 Sutton Place South, Apt. 5-G
New York, NY 10022**

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council, City of New York
FROM: Michael P. Stafford and Kathleen M. Stafford
DATE: June 7, 2022
SUBJECT: Jimmy Neary Way

Please add our wholehearted support to the City Council's Proposal to co-name East 57th Street and First Avenue "Jimmy Neary Way."

We can think of no other action by the Council that would better symbolize the core values of New York City.

Jimmy came to the City from Ireland in 1954, and through hard work, determination, faith and integrity, became an icon as the beloved proprietor of his own restaurant at 57th and First, where his family carries on his legacy. He was also a proud U.S. Army Veteran.

Jimmy's well-documented ascent from poor immigrant to respected entrepreneur should serve as an inspiration to all New Yorkers even today. The City Council's public recognition of Jimmy is certainly warranted, particularly in the neighborhood where, night after night for more than 50 years, he shared his love of New York and America with all his grateful patrons!

Patricia Doherty
325 East 57th Street
New York, NY 10022

June 6, 2022

New York City Council Members:


It was with great pleasure that I learned of the proposal to co-name the corner of First Avenue and 57th Street in honor of Jimmy Neary. At any time, "Jimmy Neary Way" would be a great addition to the neighborhood—even more so now as the city emerges from lockdown. The Sutton area, like so many others, is littered with empty storefronts—Neary's is a bastion of hospitality that has endured the city's good times and bad. Jimmy believed in New York and his daughters Una and Anne Marie continue to keep that spirit alive. Let's recognize a true New Yorker (by way of Tubbercurry, Sligo) with a new sign on the block reading "Jimmy Neary Way".

Jimmy Neary epitomized the American dream and even before attaining citizenship served in the U.S. military protect it. He was a man of faith, honor and integrity who welcomed all with a firm handshake and a warm smile. His iconic establishment was "the regular" of presidents, governors, mayors, princes of industry, the rich, the famous and just folks like me who have been going there for 55 years. Stories like his deserve to be memorialized. I implore you to do so.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to a positive decision and a glorious celebration upon the unveiling of "Jimmy Neary Way" at First Avenue and 57th Street.

Sincerely,

Patricia Doherty

From: Lisa Molinari molinariREALTOR@gmail.com 
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 6, 2022 at 6:29 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com

LM

If it were possible, Jimmy Neary would have stood, larger than life, in the middle of New York Harbor to welcome all to this land of opportunity. With a huge smile on his face and a twinkle in his eye, we can imagine him saying “I Love This Country – God Bless America”.


Well, since that post was already taken, Jimmy settled in at E 57th Street and 1st Avenue, and for over a half century, welcomed every single person who walked through the doors at Neary’s with the same smile and warm welcome. And so, it’s only fitting that we keep his memory alive by designating the corner of E 57th Street and 1st Avenue - Jimmy Neary Way!



LISA MOLINARI

REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST

Making Smart Moves Simple

 908.337.1748

 MolinariRealtor@gmail.com

 lisamolinari.com

20 Madison Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960

WEICHERT REALTORS MAIN OFFICE - 973.538.8000



From: Gail Koch comsearch@aol.com
Subject: Jimmy's
Date: June 6, 2022 at 8:12 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com

I really want to share with you my feeling about Jimmy Neary. I cannot regale you with all the personnel experiences with Jimmy. That is not enough. Jimmy Neary creating a sense of community. Not only did he have a pride in America, but he respectful of a difference of opinion in his political views . If anyone should have an area named for him, it should be Jimmy Neary, He encompassed the American Dream!

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

From: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Jimmy Neary Way
Date: June 7, 2022 at 7:32 AM
To: Jane Friedman jane.friedman2@gmail.com

On Jun 7, 2022, at 12:08 AM, Jane Friedman <jane.friedman2@gmail.com> wrote:

I have been living on 57th Street for 48 years.
And Neary's has been a landmark for us all.

When people ask me where I live, I always say "down the block from Neary's." That sums it up. -
There could be nothing more fitting than to honor Jimmy this way

My best to you all,
Jane Friedman

Sent from my iPhone

From: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Jimmy Neary
Date: June 7, 2022 at 7:37 AM
To: Merris Larkin mlarkin@assumptionnj.org

On Jun 6, 2022, at 3:11 PM, Merris Larkin <mlarkin@assumptionnj.org> wrote:

I would like to put my vote in to have 57th and 1st ave co-named in honor of Jimmy Neary. Jimmy was a "man for all seasons" in NYC. Jimmy was small in stature but big of heart and soul for NYC. The city was one of the great loves of his life. What a treat and experience to walk along 57th street and know you were walking right along with Jimmy Neary.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sister Merris Larkin

Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (another wonderful New Yorker)

Sherif K. Moussa
319 East 50th Street, Apt. 3B
New York, NY 10022

June 6, 2022

Julie Menin
250 Broadway, Suite 1821
New York, NY 10007

Dear Councilwoman Menin:

Thank you so much for introducing legislation to co-name 57th Street and 1st Avenue as "Jimmy Neary Way". My name is Sherif Moussa and I am a Manhattan resident, local business owner and longtime patron of Neary's.

As you know, the late Jimmy Neary was the inimitable and iconic founder and proprietor of Neary's from 1967 until the time of his passing in late 2021. During this time, he hosted luminaries from a variety of professions, including some of our country's most prominent, influential and celebrated individuals. Like many of our neighbors and colleagues, my wife and I have enjoyed meeting with other family members, local friends, business associates and out of town guests at Neary's for many years. It is a delightful and joyful place. But Neary's is more than just a local business, it is a symbol of the American dream situated right in the heart of America's greatest city.

So I write you in support of this legislation and ask that you do what you can to have it passed. Doing so will help ensure that Jimmy's memory and legacy is honored and commemorated by our community. In turn, that will serve to inspire others to enrich and brighten our city, as Jimmy did for so long, for years to come.

Warmest Regards,

Sherif K. Moussa

From: Tracey Seebode seebodetracey@gmail.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary's co-naming
Date: June 6, 2022 at 1:18 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com
Cc: Victor.A.Aergwall@wellsfargo.com



We are all aware of the excellent dining establishment that Jimmy Neary has created over the past 55 years. There is another part of Jimmy's life that needs to be told.

Jimmy was a patriot and he had great pride in America, especially New York City. Shortly after he immigrated to America from Ireland, he was drafted into the US Army for 2 years and was assigned to a tank battalion and shipped to the Fulda Pass in Germany. This pass was a potential site for invasions during the Cold War. Through the years he had always given special attention and accommodation to members of the military. Jimmy was an honorary member of the 69th (the Fighting 69th) Regiment. As a result of his avid support of the Navy Seal Foundation, he was awarded the Trident Pin which he wore every day thereafter. He was also awarded by Colonel Ryan of the Army the last flag that flew over Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan.

As a result of these accomplishments we respectfully support the co-naming of 57th Street and 1st Avenue to Jimmy Neary Way.

Respectfully,
V.A. Bergwall 1st Lieutenant U.S.M.C (ret.)

I, Cynthia B. Moran, think its only fitting that East 57th Street to 1st Avenue should indeed be co-named after Jimmy Neary!

Jimmy's place of business has been a wonderful neighbor for more than 50 years, bringing clientle from Sutton Place and many other neighborhoods in the area. His employees have been loyal friends arid for more than 40 years.

Jimmy was a former United States Army Veteran, a patriotic American citizen, and welcomed United States Presidents, New York City Mayors, dignitaries from near and far and welcomed everyone equally.

Jimmy was also a very charitable person who supported vigorously many causes in and around New York City, namely Sloane Kettering Cancer Center, Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Mary Manning Hospital for Women, and many too numerous to list.

We need heroes currently, and Jimmy was an Irish born all American hero. Please seriously consider his name at the top of your list.

GEORGE J. KHOURI
ATTORNEY AT LAW
110 EAST 59TH STREET
22ND FLOOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022
(212) 688-4021

E-MAIL: GJKHOURI@AOL.COM

FACSIMILE: (212) 223-4912

June 4, 2022

Re Jimmy Neary

To whom it may concern:

My wife, Margee, and I have been going to Neary's Restaurant with our friends for some time. Although the food at Neary's is always delicious, the late Jimmy Neary, his children and the always helpful and gracious staff were the reason that we love this restaurant so much. Dinner at Neary's is always so much fun! Dinner at Neary's is like attending a party hosted by one's best friends.

One time, we brought Margee's childhood friend and her daughter who has Down Syndrome. Jimmy, his children and staff helped us celebrate her 40th birthday. Not only did they arrange for a special cake but they had an opera singer serenade the birthday girl with "Happy Birthday"! Jimmy always knew how to fuss over you.

Sincerely,


George J. Khouri

GJK:mk

From: Una Neary umneary@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Co-Naming 57th Street and 1st "Jimmy Neary Way"
Date: June 7, 2022 at 7:41 AM
To: Jim Normile jsnormile@gmail.com

On Jun 5, 2022, at 6:30 AM, Jim Normile <jsnormile@gmail.com> wrote:

Great idea. Please submit this on my behalf:

To NYC Council,

I wholeheartedly support renaming 57 and 1st as Jimmy Neary Way. He was the anchor of the neighborhood and known to all. His smile brightened that corner of our city and this is a very appropriate way to honor his memory.

Best,

Jim Normile.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sandi Schneider sandis440@gmail.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary
Date: June 6, 2022 at 4:35 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com



Jimmy was the most patriotic guy we ever knew! At his birthday celebration every year, God Bless America came before Happy Birthday! Most deserving of this honor!
Sandi & Harvey Schneider

From: Robert Dunn randjdunn@nyc.rr.com
Subject: Jimmy Neary Way, East 57 Street and 1st Ave
Date: June 6, 2022 at 4:02 PM
To: umneary@gmail.com



How fitting it is to name this place on East 57th Street in honor of Jimmy Neary who warmly greeted New Yorkers there for decades at his restaurant. He was the real deal.
Joan and Bob Dunn

Sent from my iPhone

Sherif K. Moussa
319 East 50th Street, Apt. 3B
New York, NY 10022

June 6, 2022

Julie Menin
250 Broadway, Suite 1821
New York, NY 10007

Dear Councilwoman Menin:

Thank you so much for introducing legislation to co-name 57th Street and 1st Avenue as “Jimmy Neary Way”. My name is Sherif Moussa and I am a Manhattan resident, local business owner and longtime patron of Neary’s.

As you know, the late Jimmy Neary was the inimitable and iconic founder and proprietor of Neary’s from 1967 until the time of his passing in late 2021. During this time, he hosted luminaries from a variety of professions, including some of our country’s most prominent, influential and celebrated individuals. Like many of our neighbors and colleagues, my wife and I have enjoyed meeting with other family members, local friends, business associates and out of town guests at Neary’s for many years. It is a delightful and joyful place. But Neary’s is more than just a local business, it is a symbol of the American dream situated right in the heart of America’s greatest city.

So I write you in support of this legislation and ask that you do what you can to have it passed. Doing so will help ensure that Jimmy’s memory and legacy is honored and commemorated by our community. In turn, that will serve to inspire others to enrich and brighten our city, as Jimmy did for so long, for years to come.

Warmest Regards,

Sherif K. Moussa



From: Deirdre Brennan deirdrebrennan57@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: Jimmy
Date: June 6, 2022 at 11:31 AM
To: umneary@gmail.com
Cc: David Brennan dbbmel@aol.com

Hi Una,

Here is a letter of support that David wrote for Jimmy Neary Way! What a fantastic idea and we couldn't agree more. Good luck and keep us posted!

xox

Deirdre

----- Forwarded message -----

From: DAVID BRENNAN <dbbmel@aol.com>
Date: Mon, Jun 6, 2022 at 11:24 AM
Subject: Jimmy
To: Deirdre Brennan <deirdrebrennan57@gmail.com>

Dear City Council,

We are writing to advocate for the naming of 57th Street as Jimmy Neary way. We live 2 doors down from Neary's and it is a wonderful place where "everyone knows your name." For years Jimmy has been known in the neighborhood as the Mayor. Whenever you went to Nearys, Jimmy would meet you with a grand smile and always have a story to tell. It was a privilege to attend his annual "surprise" birthday party which ended with an enthusiastic rendition of "God Bless America". My Dad knew Jimmy going back to his early days as a bartender at P.J. Moriarty's and Jimmy graciously hosted my Dad and Mom to his place which was one of their special evenings. I cannot think of a better tribute to acknowledge what those of us in the neighborhood have been doing for years—that is to recognize Jimmy's importance to our neighborhood. If anyone deserves such a tribute, it is Jimmy Neary. When the film was made about Jimmy, he invited all his customers to ride in a bus he chartered to view the screening at the Cardinal Sheehan Film Center and then he treated everyone after the film to Champagne and cake. The other big night was of course, St. Patrick's Day. We were there on MArch 16th 2020 when it was celebrated the day before the shutdown. The reopening of Nearys post covid provided a comforting restoration to normalcy and his place was once again full of the regulars who came to rely on a good meal, surrounded by friends and of course the ever dapper smiling Jimmy greeting each table and making us all feel special. Una and the family and long serving staff have kept the flame alive and deserve this tribute as much as Jimmy!

Please change our street name to Jimmy Neary way. It is a proper tribute to a man who always said this was the best city in the world and that because of his restaurant he loved his life.

Best Regards,

David & Deirdre Brennan
340 East 57th (aka Jimmy Neary Way)
NY NY 10022

Sent from my iPad

I, Cynthia B. Moran, think its only fitting that East 57th Street to 1st Avenue should indeed be co-named after Jimmy Neary!

Jimmy's place of business has been a wonderful neighbor for more than 50 years, bringing clientle from Sutton Place and many other neighborhoods in the area. His employees have been loyal friends and for more than 40 years.

Jimmy was a former United States Army Veteran, a patriotic American citizen, and welcomed United States Presidents, New York City Mayors, dignitaries from near and far and welcomed everyone equally.

Jimmy was also a very charitable person who supported vigorously many causes in and around New York City, namely Sloane Kettering Cancer Center, Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Mary Manning Hospital for Women, and many too numerous to list.

We need heroes currently, and Jimmy was an Irish born all American hero. Please seriously consider his name at the top of your list.

The naming of a street often reflects the neighborhood or a person who was associated with that neighborhood. In both instances, it is both appropriate and meaningful that 57th and 1st Ave be co-named "Jimmy Neary Way."

Founded on St Patrick's Day, 55 years ago, Neary's has been a destination for thousands of loyal customers, who come because the restaurant is a reflection of its founder, Jimmy Neary.

Jimmy's smile was enveloping and exuded a warmth and a deep appreciation for every customer's business. Jimmy made us feel that we were members of the Neary family.

Naming 57th and 1st "Jimmy Neary Way" will pay tribute to an extraordinary man whose way touched many people.

Linda and Bill Kaye

**K. Deane Reade, Jr. Pamela L. Bimson
500 East 77th.Street
New York, N.Y. 10162**

June 6, 2022

Hon. Julie Menin Councilwoman/Member
New York City Council- Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Sitings, and Dispositions
250 Broadway
New York, NY 1000

Re: Proposed Naming of 1st Avenue & 57th.Street, New York City as Jimmy Neary Way

Dear Councilwoman Menin,

We heartily endorse your proposed naming of 57th.Street and 1st Avenue as Jimmy Neary Way.

Our first address in NYC was at 1st Avenue and 72nd. Street back in the Giuliani 70's. Prior to our marriage my wife Pamela, who as a newcomer to the City needed to cash an Arizona bank check after the banks closed to get her car repaired. At the time I was traveling but called Jimmy to ask if he would accommodate her request so she could take care of her car repairs.

As always, Jimmy the gentleman told Kevin who was tending bar, if a young blond woman looking no more than 18 years of age in a pony tail showed up, to cash her check and offer her dinner.

Ever since, Jimmy Neary has been her "Knight In Shining Armor", and over the last 50 + years we've enjoyed raising and treating three sons on Jimmy's wonderful fare, fabulous camaraderie and neighborly ambience.

Given the City's current challenges we can think of no greater way to commemorate the American Dream than to honor this humble man of the people as you propose, for his extraordinary and graceful accomplishments as one of the City's preeminent ambassadors.

Sincerely,

Deane and Pamela

From: Rick Helfenbein <rhelfen@gmail.com>

Date: June 7, 2022 at 7:56:01 AM EDT

To: Una Neary <umneary@gmail.com>

Subject: Proposal: to have 57th Street and 1st Avenue co-named as “Jimmy Neary Way”.

Moving to Manhattan can be a daunting experience unless, of course, you had the incredible opportunity to have met Jimmy Neary.

As my wife and I wandered into Neary’s on 57th Street several years ago, we were greeted by Jimmy - and we felt right at home. In fact, Jimmy immediately wound us into his web of family, staff, fellow diners, and friends. If, on any day, you entered his world without a smile, he gave you his own. There is no one more worthy to have a valued corner of Manhattan named after – than the consummate host himself – Jimmy Neary – a person whose name is larger than life itself and a name that should live on forever.

Rick & Harriet Helfenbein

Rick Helfenbein

60 Sutton Place So

Apt 15 BS

New York, NY 10022

212 486 2967

Sutton Pl

NY, NY 10022

June 8, 2022

To: New York City Council

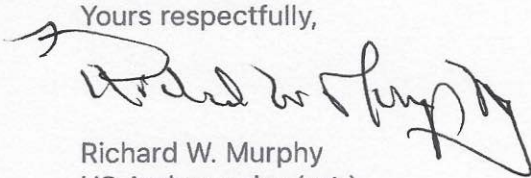
Ref: Julie Menin, District 5 Council member legislation
To re-name 57th St and 1st Ave "**Jimmy Neary Way**"

Dear Sir/Madam:

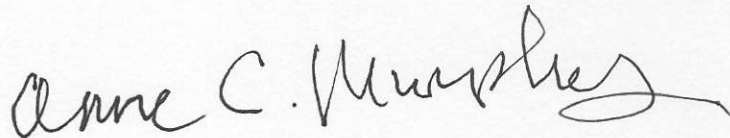
We, and our daughter Kate, would like to express our strong support for Ms Menin's proposed legislation to re-name 57th and 1st Ave **Jimmy Neary Way**.

We moved to Sutton Pl in 1989 and quickly learned that Neary's was the local Favorite. We are delighted that the restaurant goes forward today under the highly capable management of Una Neary, Jimmy's daughter, who worked hand in hand with Jimmy.

Yours respectfully,



Richard W. Murphy
US Ambassador (ret.).



Anne C. Murphy

Robert Doherty
6th Avenue
New York, NY 10022

June 8, 2022

Julie Menin
250 Broadway, Suite 1821
New York, NY 10007

Dear Councilwoman Menin,

We are most grateful for the legislation you have introduced to co-name 57th Street and First Ave after our beloved Jimmy Neary. As you know, not only was Neary's a great institution and meeting place for family and friends, but the life and times of Jimmy Neary was right out of a story book.

Jimmy and his entire family made Neary's quite a special place that has hosted numerous Presidents, Governors, Mayors and luminaries over the past 55 years. Some of my family's favorite nights have been spent right there at Neary's listening to Jimmy tell some of his infamous stories.

My family and I thank you in advance for your strong support of this legislation. We wish you the best of luck with this and all of your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Robert Doherty

Anthony Calenda
909 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022

June 7, 2022

Julie Menin
250 Broadway, Suite 1821
New York, NY 10007

Dear Councilwoman Menin:

Thank you so much for introducing legislation to co-name 57th Street and 1st Avenue as "Jimmy Neary Way". My name is Anthony Calenda and I am a Manhattan resident, graduate of Columbia, and customer of Neary's restaurant.

The late Jimmy Neary loved operating Neary's from 1967 until the time of his passing in 2021. For many years, I have enjoyed dining with my family members, friends, business associates and out of town guests at Neary's. It is an excellent restaurant that embodies our city's finest traditions. Furthermore, Jimmy was an immigrant to America and co-naming this intersection after him will be a positive symbol for all immigrants. He represents the best of the American experience.

So I write you in support of this legislation and request that you do what you can to have it passed. Jimmy is indeed deserving of this honor.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Calenda', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anthony Calenda

June 9, 2022

To the esteemed New York City Council,

The purpose of this letter is to join in the support of naming 57th and 1st Avenue “Jimmy Neary Way”. Beyond the fact that Jimmy came to our shores as an immigrant and catered to the citizens of New York for over 50 years with open arms, Jimmy celebrated his citizenship by living a life in NYC and by welcoming all individuals who entered his establishment, from construction workers to the “high and mighty”. His establishment welcomed a full spectrum of New Yorkers and other visitors: weary travelers, individuals celebrating birthdays and happy events, and also individuals gathering to respect lost ones.

His menu prices reflected his genteel and caring nature. His prices for food and grog remained affordable to all classes of New Yorkers, and his affable nature welcomed all who entered and accompanied all who left with a greater sense of appreciation of his true concern for their well-being and the well being of those who enjoyed a meal – a drink – a laugh, or just a conversation. Jimmy was New York. He was iconic, unique, and his class and acumen transcended the decades without pause or forced revision. NYC should honor him with its appreciation and the appreciation of all who loved him and occasioned his establishment. As our 35th President, John F. Kennedy, said so boldly:

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter the words, but to live by them."

Jimmy was pleasant to everyone, and always “took the high road”. Let’s live in appreciation of this New York institution – Jimmy Neary – by naming the street in his honor – a thoroughfare which he and his welcoming restaurant ably manned for over 50 years.

Sincerely,

/s/Thomas P. Bergwall

Thomas P. Bergwall

TB/ka

From: Kevin Callahan <kcallahan22@gmail.com>

Subject: Fwd: Co-Naming 57th Street and 1st "Jimmy Neary Way"

Dear New York City Council Members:

I love the New York City tradition of co-naming streets after great New Yorkers. I am not alone in looking up at some street sign and opening my phone to find out, "Who was that?" For those fortunate enough to have known Jimmy Neary, his family and friends, the countless patrons of Neary's Pub over five plus decades, his memory looms large, his infectious optimism and kindness, his laugh and his many stories. But what about those who didn't know him, the passerby, the man walking his dog, the woman on her way to work, the Amazon delivery person? They would have loved to have known Jimmy Neary as well. He was a great American, a great New Yorker, and, above all else, a great human being. May we all honor and remember him for future generations by co-naming 57th and 1st Street "Jimmy Neary Way."

Thank you for your consideration,

Kevin M. Callahan
Norwalk, CT

Dear City Council –

As a lifelong resident of New York City, it has been my privilege over the years to meet Jimmy Neary at his restaurant on 57th St. It is a landmark in many lives of the residence of the upper East side and throughout the tri-state area.

Culturally, it remains a significant place in the Irish American experience here in New York City.

Please add my voice to those of many others who are asking the council to consider this honorary renaming as a contribution to the multi generational diversity of this wonderful place.

Sent from my iPad

In Christ +

Rev. Robert M. Dunn
5655 Arlington Ave.
Riverdale, NY 10471

frdunn@mac.com

Rear 33 St Mary's Road
Ballsbridge,
Dublin D04 WK65
Ireland

8 June 2022

To New York City Council
New York

Dear Sir / Madam

Re 57 St and 1st Ave – Jimmy Neary Way

I write to enthusiastically support Ms Julie Menin proposal to co-name this wonderful street as Jimmy Neary Way.

Jimmy was the most fantastic ambassador for that special area in New York for over 50 years. His welcome and hospitality to New Yorkers and to visitors like me who came from far and wide was what brought us all back time and time again

May he rest in peace

I do hope you will co-name this street as Jimmy Neary Way

Yours faithfully



Marie O'Connor

marie.o.connorireland@gmail.com

+353868106308

From: Rick Helfenbein <rhelfen@gmail.com>

Date: June 7, 2022 at 7:56:01 AM EDT

To: Una Neary <umneary@gmail.com>

Subject: Proposal: to have 57th Street and 1st Avenue co-named as “Jimmy Neary Way”.

Moving to Manhattan can be a daunting experience unless, of course, you had the incredible opportunity to have met Jimmy Neary.

As my wife and I wandered into Neary’s on 57th Street several years ago, we were greeted by Jimmy - and we felt right at home. In fact, Jimmy immediately wound us into his web of family, staff, fellow diners, and friends. If, on any day, you entered his world without a smile, he gave you his own. There is no one more worthy to have a valued corner of Manhattan named after – than the consummate host himself – Jimmy Neary – a person whose name is larger than life itself and a name that should live on forever.

Rick & Harriet Helfenbein

Rick Helfenbein
60 Sutton Place So
Apt 15 BS
New York, NY 10022
212 486 2967

FROM THE DESK OF

Brian G. Andersson

June 9, 2022

Dear NYC City Council:

I wish to add my voice in support of the proposed co-naming of East 57th Street at First Avenue as "JIMMY NEARY WAY."

There aren't enough good things that could be said of a man I met over 35 years ago. He was an Irish immigrant, like my grandfather, who came here with little more than a dream - that taught me what true Patriotism looked and sounded like.

He was a man unapologetic Faith - and he LIVED it.

Jimmy Neary worked very hard to raise a family and build a good business in a tough and demanding town. He LIVED the AMERICAN DREAM. Everything you see and experience at his fine establishment at 358 East 57th Street was scratched out with sheer determination and good character - oh, and that smile.

The notable people that have frequented Neary's over the last 55 years discovered the wonderful and welcoming atmosphere of friendship the moment they stepped through the door.

I am honored to have known Jimmy Neary and his family.

As a kid born, raised, educated, and still a homeowner in The Bronx, I can confidently say that this is exactly the type New Yorker that we should be honoring - and I add my name to supporting this very appropriate action.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brian G. Andersson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

Brian G. Andersson

(Former Commissioner, NYC Dept. of Records)

I would like to testify as a friend of the Neary family - that I believe 57th and 1st should be named Jimmy Neary Way. Jimmy is a legacy in New York City - his restaurant has been around for over 50 years and he came to this country with nothing and made a beautiful life for him and his entire family. He is the epitome of what New York City and the American Dream are all about. No one deserves a street named after him more than Jimmy Neary. I had the privilege of knowing him personally, and there are few humans that have the integrity, love for NYC, passion for what he did and achieved. This would mean the world to him (he was a very religious man and I know he is still with us) and the world to his family all that knew and loved him.

My Name is Dutch deCarvalho and I am a lifelong New York City resident. I am here to voice my opposition to Mayor Eric Adams' executive budget, and to call on the City Council to pass a budget that meets the needs of all New Yorkers.

Two years into the pandemic, working-class New Yorkers are in crisis. COVID-19 cases are surging, landlords are raising rents and families struggle to stay in their homes. But the mayor continues to favor the wealthy and powerful over everyday New Yorkers. His budget makes devastating cuts to vital city services, like housing, healthcare, sanitation, and education, while leaving the NYPD's \$10-billion budget intact.

Today, I urge the Council to fight against the mayor's program of austerity and punishment. Instead of cutting funding for housing, the Council must invest \$4 billion into permanent, affordable housing, including \$1.5 billion for NYCHA and \$2.5 billion for HPD. As someone who works in the public schools, I am particularly disgusted by Adams' cuts to our public education system. The budget should be investing \$122 million into CUNY, and funding DOE mental health counselors and social workers, rather than filling school police vacancies and cutting the budget. I also urge the Council to act on two deadly crises facing our city: climate catastrophe and the overdose epidemic. We need \$3.1 billion for the Streets Plan, \$1.8 billion for green public schools, \$250 million for Fair Fares, and \$10 million to expand life-saving safe consumption sites to all five boroughs.

Finally, the Council must reject the mayor's regressive return to law and order. I urge the Council to reject the proposal to add hundreds of new COs for solitary confinement, a practice the UN defines as torture. I also urge the Council to demonstrate their commitment to racial justice by cutting failed NYPD criminalization programs like the ineffective and violent plainclothes units, the so-called Subway Safety Plan, and ending all NYPD response to mental health calls.

Thank you for hearing my testimony.

Dear Members of the park committee,

My name is Hoay Ming Tan, I am a mother of 2 young children who goes to the city park's swim team program. After the pandemic, I have been looking for a swim program for both my children who love the sport but fail. There are very few swim team programs in the city and some of the requirements to join the team are difficult to achieve. When I found that the city park pool was offering a swim team program, I was very grateful. My kids love the coaches and the program.

They have learned a lot and made many friends. Competitive swim sport is a great sport to teach young kids and youth how to compete fairly and be good sportsmanship besides serving as a great fitness program for kids. It is also a great life saving skill to teach kids and youth. This great program will help young communities in the city to grow to be healthy citizens besides giving them the opportunity to get a job as a lifeguard when they get older.

I was very sad when I learned from the coaches that the park may not have this program anymore. As a result, **I would like to appeal to the council members in the hope that the Park and Recreational center will continue the swim team program for all the young kids and youth in the community.**

Thank you

Best Regards,
Hoay Ming

Dear council member,

I write to you on behalf of my two boys. They have learned to swim thanks to the NYC aquatic programs.

My youngest is still learning and sadly we haven't gotten in the lottery the past couple of times since it's a very popular program. My oldest is part of the swimming team at Gertrude Ederle Recreation Center. He loves to be part of the team, his coaches are amazing and he really enjoys his friendship with the other swimmers.

It has come to my attention that there's a chance the program will end and that's why I am writing to you.

Swimming is not only fun but it's an amazing exercise and an important life skill. Our children are healthier and safer when they learn how to swim! Childhood obesity is increasing in our country, we need more programs like this to help keep our children healthy.

Learning to swim can also enhance children's safety in the water decreasing their chances of drowning. Fatal drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury death in children ages 1-14. (1)

Participation in formal swimming lessons can reduce the risk of drowning among children and young adults (2,3).

If anything, we need more programs like this instead of less! These programs are always at capacity and there're no enough spots through the lottery. They are incredibly valuable because they are free and accessible to all. Programs like this make me proud as a New York tax payer.

Please consider maintaining or expanding these programs. Our children need them!

Thanks in advance for your time and help,

Pamela Flores

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS) [Online]. Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars>. Accessed 16 April 2021.
2. Denny SA, Quan L, Gilchrist J, McCallin T, Shenoi R, Yusuf S, Hoffman B, Weiss J. American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) – Council on Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention. [Policy Statement – Prevention of Drowningexternal icon](#). Pediatrics 2019;143(5): e20190850
3. Brenner RA, Taneja GS, Haynie DL, Trumble AC, Qian C, Klinger RM, Klevanoff MA. [Association between swimming lessons and drowning in childhood: A case-control studyexternal icon](#). Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine 2009;163(3):203–210.

NYC H2O is an environmental education and stewardship organization that works in all five boroughs.



Commissioner Donoghue talked about expanding access to open space.

If I told you that there was 50 acres of greenspace that was not open to the public at all? Would you believe me?

Well it's true. The Ridgewood Reservoir in Highland Park between Cypress Hills Brooklyn and Ridgewood Queens, pictured in my background, is 50 continuous acres that is completely inaccessible to the public. Let's open it up safely with boardwalks. NYC H2O has a plan and the ability to open the interior of the basins up to the public safely.

CM Krishnan asked Carter Strickland what it would take for Parks to engage in a similar partnership that the Trust for Public Land has with the DOE.

Your question is right on the mark.

I think this should be the focus of the next Parks committee hearing. There should be a standardized mechanism in place to make this happen with clear metrics, rather than entering into partnerships with select groups based on political connections.

CM Holden pointed out that it cost the city \$3,000 to plant one tree.

NYC H2O planted 200 trees in Highland Park last year. We did not get paid \$600,000. We did it for the cost of employing 5 employees who worked with and organized 20 volunteers to help with the planting.

In the meanwhile, NYC H2O citywide Ecological Sustainability Proposal with Jamaica Bay-Rockaway Parks Conservancy, Bronx River Alliance, Natural Areas Conservancy, and Van Cortlandt Park Alliance. As part of the Greener NYC initiative, we propose a citywide ecological sustainability program to protect the City's valuable ecosystems, mitigate increasing climate change impacts, and improve open spaces and waterways. Our coalition has formulated a citywide plan that will engage the public in environmental education, stewardship, and provide green jobs and training designed to improve the ecosystems in public spaces, parklands, and wetlands.

We have shared the proposal with council finance.

According to our partners at the Natural Areas Conservancy, there are 20,000 acres of forests and wetlands in NYC. Divided across these 20,000 acres, our proposal comes out to under \$90 an acre. NYC H2O has a successful track record of organizing cleanups on beaches across the city and at the Ridgewood Reservoir in Highland Park. Bringing together hundreds of volunteers

a year, we are able to do the same work the City normally spends 4-5 times more on through contract work.

The benefits are more than just cost savings: our work provides New Yorkers the opportunity to get involved in their local communities, experience our City's natural environment, and learn something new.

With this funding, the coalition will

- Remove invasive species and plant native species in parks and wetlands in all five boroughs
- Hire 15 full-time environmental stewards from the communities surrounding these natural areas and provide green job training
- Facilitate 400 environmental STEM field trips bringing over 7,500 public school students from 284 schools (primarily Title I and III) to New York City parklands
- Organize year-round weekly volunteer stewardship events recruiting 3,000 volunteers
- Engage the public in programming that brings them into their local parks

We believe that getting people out and into nature is the best way to foster a connection with the environment and encourage community engagement. Thank you for your time and consideration; we have submitted a longer proposal as written testimony.

Dear Members of the Parks Committee,

I would like to submit this request to continue the swim team into September.

I am a parent of two kids who go to the Swim Team at Gertrude Ederle center. I understand that it has not been fully decided whether the swim teams program would continue next year. All of us, parents of the swim team, were really upset and disappointed at the possibility of discontinuing the program, and would like to make our voices heard that we really love the program and appreciate what the city is doing for us here. And we would like to plead to the city council and commissioner to keep the program open for next year and to start it in September.

During the few months both kids made tremendous progress in their swimming. The older one rejected 2 other teams after going there once, and this is the first program that she loves. I credit the wonderful coaches for this.

To speak more broadly about the program and the people who attend it – there is tremendous diversity in the kids who attend it. For many of them English is a second language, and there is a blend of all races and ethnicities. All kids are in public schools. Some kids commute from as far as Queens for this. It is fascinating to observe the dynamics between kids at the drop off and pick up in the changing room. We have kids from 6 to 18 from all backgrounds, and they really feel like a team in their interactions.

If this program were to be closed, there are no alternatives. There are a few very costly teams, and none in the geographic area of the west side. Please consider keeping it from September.

Regards,

Olga Nekrasova