



Woodhaven Post No. 118 Inc.

89-02 91st Street
Woodhaven, NY 11421
Phone 718-846-6116

Whereas, Forest Park Drive is the home to trees that were planted nearly 100 years ago, in 1919, as a living memorial to all of the young men who made the supreme sacrifice in World War 1, and,

Whereas, Forest Park Drive is the home to Private First Class Laurence Strack Memorial Pond, named in tribute (at the request of American Legion Post 118) to the local young man who played ball at that location when it was a ballfield, and was killed in action in Vietnam, the first young man from our area to die in service to our country in that conflict, and

Whereas, Forest Park Drive is the home to a 9/11 memorial at the site of the bandstand, dedicated to all of those who lost their lives in the attacks on our country on 9/11/2001, and,

Whereas, Forest Park Drive is the home to Victory Field, which was named to pay tribute and homage to all of the unknown soldiers who lost their lives in World War 1, and,

Whereas, Forest Park Drive is the home to the Richmond Hill War Memorial (often referred to as the Buddy Monument), which also sits next to Richmond Hill's memorial trees, and,

Whereas, Forest Park Drive is the home to Sgt. Joseph E. Schaefer Oval, named after the resident of Richmond Hill who single-handedly repelled a Nazi attack on American troops during World War 2, therefore,

Be it resolved that American Legion Post 118 Woodhaven calls upon the citizens of this City of New York to pay tribute and homage to all of these heroes by renaming all of Forest Park Drive to Forest Park MEMORIAL Drive, and,

Be it further resolved, that the dedication be made with appropriate ceremony and protocol that befits such an occasion, and that it be completed in time for the 100th Anniversary observations of the end of the first great World War, which will be observed on Sunday, November 11th, 2018, and,

Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution be sent to our local civic organizations ("Woodhaven Residents' Block Association," "Woodhaven Cultural & Historical Society," "Greater Woodhaven Development Corporation," "Woodhaven Business Improvement

District," "Richmond Hill Block Association," and "Richmond Hill Historical Society," to enlist their support for this request, and,

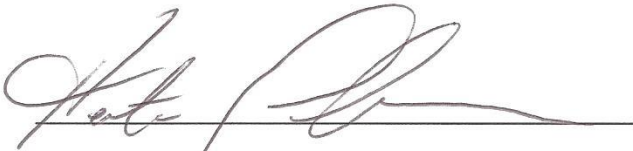
Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution, along with resolutions from other groups be sent to our local council members, Eric Ulrich and Elizabeth Crowley, our Assemblyman Mike Miller, State Senator Joseph Addabbo Jr., and our Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez, and,

Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution, along with resolutions from other groups be sent to our local Community Board (CB#9) and their Transportation Committee for endorsement, and,

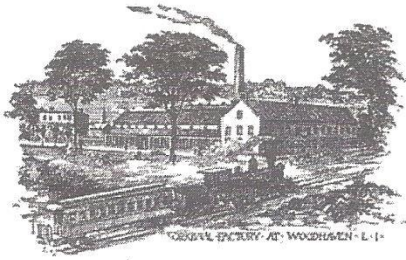
Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution, along with resolutions from other groups and organizations be sent to his Honor, Bill deBlasio, The Mayor of New York City, and to Dottie Lewandowsky, the Commissioner of Queens Parks, Nicole Garcia, the Queens Borough Commissioner of the NYC Department of Transportation, and,

Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution, along with resolutions from other groups be sent to our local newspapers for their edification and use.

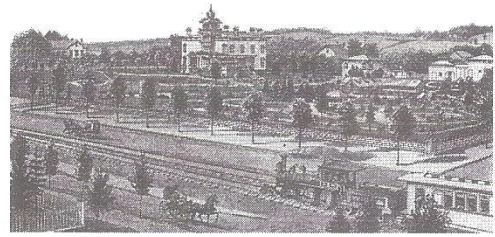
This resolution was read and adopted by the membership at the September 19th meeting of American Legion Post 118 Woodhaven.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hector Johnson', written over a horizontal line.

Hector Johnson
Post Commander



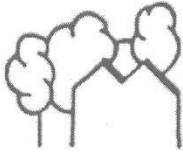
The Woodhaven Cultural & Historical Society



September 28th, 2016

Be it resolved that the Woodhaven Cultural and Historical Society has voted unanimously to support a resolution adopted by American Legion Post 118 Woodhaven to rename all of Forest Park Drive to Forest Park MEMORIAL Drive, and, that the dedication be made with appropriate ceremony and protocol that befits such an occasion, and that it be completed in time for the 100th Anniversary observations of the end of the first great World War, which will be observed on Sunday, November 11th, 2018.

Edward K. Wendell
Executive Director
Woodhaven Cultural & Historical Society
Phone: 718-805-2002
Email: projectwoodhaven@gmail.com



Woodhaven Residents' Block Association
84-20 Jamaica Avenue Woodhaven, NY 11421
718-296-3735 info@woodhaven-nyc.org

October 5, 2016

The Board of Directors of the Woodhaven Residents' Block Association has voted unanimously to support a resolution adopted by American Legion Post 118 Woodhaven to rename all of Forest Park Drive to Forest Park *Memorial* Drive. The Woodhaven Residents' Block Association also supports making the dedication with appropriate ceremony and protocol befitting such an occasion, and completing it in time for the 100th Anniversary observations of the end of the First World War, which will be observed on Sunday, November 11, 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Colberg', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Martin Colberg
President
Woodhaven Residents' Block Association
www.woodhaven-nyc.org



THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

ERIC A. ULRICH
COUNCIL MEMBER
32ND DISTRICT • QUEENS

DISTRICT OFFICES:
93-06 101ST AVENUE
OZONE PARK, NY 11416
(718) 738-1083

114-12 BEACH CHANNEL DRIVE, SUITE 1
ROCKAWAY PARK, NY 11694
(718) 318-6411
culrich@council.nyc.gov

CHAIRMAN
VETERANS

COMMITTEES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
HOUSING & BUILDINGS
RECOVERY AND RESILIENCY
SMALL BUSINESS

October 27, 2016

Mr. Raj Rampershad
Chairman, Community Board 9
120-55 Queens Boulevard, Rm 310-A
Kew Gardens, NY 11424

Re: Forest Park Drive

Dear Chairman Rampershad,

I write you to offer my full support for the proposal by Woodhaven American Legion Post No. 118 to change the name of Forest Park Drive to Forest Park Memorial Drive. As the Chairman of the New York City Council Committee on Veterans, I believe this renaming will be a fitting way to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation.

Forest Park has many memorials to our nation's soldiers, including memorial oaks, the 9/11 memorial at the bandstand, the Buddy Monument, Strack Pond, and Victory Field. Renaming Forest Park Drive will enhance the way our community already honors our veterans and fallen soldiers.

I wholeheartedly support this renaming and respectfully ask that Community Board 9 consider this request. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me any time.

Sincerely,

Eric A. Ulrich
New York City Council Member
District 32, Queens

EAU: kwt



MICHAEL MILLER
Assemblyman 38th District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
Majority Committee on
House Operations

COMMITTEES

Aging
Banks
Education
Labor
Racing and Wagering
Veterans' Affairs

MEMBER

Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force
New York Conference of
Italian-American State Legislators
New York State Chapter of
Jewish Legislators

October 6, 2016

Mr. Raj Rampershad
Chairman
Community Board 9
120-55 Queens Boulevard Rm 310-A
Kew Gardens, NY 11424

Re: Forest Park Drive

Dear Chairman Rampershad:

I am writing this letter to inform you of my support of changing Forest Park Drive to Forest Park Memorial Drive in accordance with the 100th Anniversary of World War I.

Forest Park is synonymous with memorials to the fallen of our community during foreign wars of the past century. Strack Pond, the 9/11 memorial at the Forest Park Bandshell and the Buddy Monument are symbols of remembrance. It would be appropriate to commemorate November 11th 2018, the hundredth year to the date of the armistice of World War I with renaming Forest Park Drive to Forest Park Memorial Drive.

I respectfully request that Community Board 9 look into this request. If additional information is warranted please contact my office at 718-805-0950, I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Mike Miller
Member of Assembly
District 38

MGM:jk



THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

SENATOR
JOSEPH P. ADDABBO, JR.
15TH SENATE DISTRICT

ALBANY OFFICE
613 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NY 12247
(518) 455-2322
FAX (518) 426-6875

DISTRICT OFFICE
159-53 102ND STREET
HOWARD BEACH, NY 11414
(718) 738-1111
FAX (718) 322-5760

SATELLITE OFFICES
66-85 73RD PLACE
MIDDLE VILLAGE, NY 11379
(718) 497-1630
FAX (718) 497-1761

88-08 ROCKAWAY BEACH BOULEVARD
ROCKAWAY BEACH, NEW YORK 11693
(718) 318-0702
FAX (718) 318-0194

E-MAIL: ADDABBO@NYSenate.GOV

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
RACING, GAMING & WAGERING
VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY
& MILITARY AFFAIRS

COMMITTEES:

AGING
CIVIL SERVICE
EDUCATION
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
LABOR

October 20, 2016

Ed Wendell
Woodhaven Cultural and Historical Society
85-37 91 Street
Woodhaven, New York 11421

Dear Ed,

I hope this letter finds you well.

It is indeed a pleasure to write this letter in support of the proposal to rename Forest Park Drive in honor of those Americans who gave the last full measure in defense of our beloved country. As the ranking member of the New York State Senate's Veterans' Affairs committee, I am privileged to be a voice and advocate for our veterans.

The entire length of the proposed Forest Park Memorial Drive, from the memorial oaks planted just after the First World War; passed the 9/11 Memorial, Strack Pond and Victory Field; and on to the "Buddy Monument" and Sgt. Schaefer Oval, lies within the 15th Senate District.

I am pleased to join with Woodhaven Residents' Block Association, American Legion Post No. 118, and the Woodhaven Cultural & Historical Society and to call upon the great City of New York to achieve so much by this simple gesture. It is my sincerest hope that the official dedication of Forest Park Memorial Drive can be achieved in time for the centennial of Armistice Day.

Thank you for your efforts.

Very truly yours,

Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr.
New York State Senate
15th District

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
RANKING DEMOCRATIC MEMBER

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND INSURANCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
AND CONSUMER CREDIT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ
7TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS FOR
WOMEN'S ISSUES
CONGRESSIONAL
PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS
OLDER AMERICANS CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL
CHILDREN'S CAUCUS

October 19, 2016

Mayor Bill de Blasio
Office of the Mayor
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Hon. Mayor de Blasio,

I write to express my wholehearted support for the proposal by American Legion Post No. 118, the Woodhaven Cultural & Historical Society and the Woodhaven Resident Block Association, and Queens Community Board 9, to change the name of Forest Park Drive in Woodhaven Queens to *Forest Park Memorial* in order to preserve its historical importance and honor our Veterans. This name change is being asked in advance of Veteran's Day 2016.

Forest Park Drive is home to numerous Memorials like the Sgt. Joseph E. Schaffer Oval, Private First Class Laurence Strack Memorial Pond, Victory Field, Richmond Hill War Memorial, and the 9/11 memorial – all dedicated heroes, known and unknown, who served to preserve our freedoms and lost their lives.

Changing the name of Forest Park Drive to Forest Park Memorial is another great way in which to remember our lost vets. Albeit a small change, it points to a large part of Woodhaven, Queens and American history. Most importantly, it will be an addition to the park's identity, and ongoing tradition of representing the memories of virtuous men and women. There are more than 190,500 veterans living throughout the five boroughs. We owe all of them a deep debt of gratitude. Whether they are family members, or friends, efforts like this will help the community never forget those who served, and are serving in the armed forces, as they play baseball at Victory Field or go for a run around Richmond Hill.

Thank you and I urge your support of this historical effort to re-name Forest Park Drive to Forest Park Memorial.

Sincerely,



Nydia Velazquez
Member of Congress