

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: **ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS** designating the northeast corner of Orange Street and Elm Street as “Lucretia’S Corner” to honor Lucretia for helping build the City of New Haven and recognize her commitment to helping the elderly.

Submitted by: Alder Steven Winter, Ward 21

REPORT: 1615-09

ADVICE: Approve with conditions.

BACKGROUND

This request comes from the Board of Alders regarding an ordinance to designate the corner of Orange Street and Elm Street as “Lucretia’s Corner” to honor her significant role in helping build the City of New Haven and her commitment to advocating for the elderly. According to Section 18-2(a)(3) of Title III, Chapter 18, Article I of the City’s Code requires, **“Each submission shall contain:**

- (i) **Plan of the site of the proposed location indicating all structures and street features as well as the proposed signage drawn to scale for review by the city.**
- (ii) **Proposed wording of the signage.**
- (iii) **A petition of at least two hundred fifty (250) city resident signatures in favor of the proposed naming, of which at least two-thirds (2/3 (one hundred sixty-six ((166)) shall be residents of the neighborhood of the proposed sign location.”**

In the New Haven Colony shortly after its establishment in 1638, the first African of which there is any record is Lucretia. Lucretia was enslaved by New Haven’s first governor, Theophilus Eaton at his estate, located on a plot of land which would now be bisected by the corner of Orange Street and Elm Street. Lucretia was a significant behind-the-scenes person in helping to build progress in the domesticity of New Haven and the public domain she experienced, from its beginning. Lucretia, in her old age, using whatever opportunities came her way, courageously expressed the need for better treatment of the elderly.

To honor Lucretia and her contributions in helping to build the City of New Haven, the designation of the corner of Orange Street and Elm Street is proposed, in recognition of Lucretia in perpetuity, officially commemorating her legacy in New Haven.

A petition of at least two hundred fifty (250) city resident signatures in favor of the proposed naming has been submitted.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

This proposal in accordance with Title I, Article XIII, Section 2(A) of the New Haven Code of Ordinances states, **"Every Ordinance or Resolution of the Board of Alders relating to the location and use of any street, bridge, boulevard, esplanade, square, park, playground, playfield, aviation field, parking space, public building, the facilities or terminals of any public utility, or the establishment or change in the boundaries of or regulations concerning zoning, shall be at once referred to the City Planning Commission and final action shall not be taken on any such Ordinance or Resolution until the commission shall have reported thereon, provided that the**

Board of Alders may establish by ordinance a period of not less than sixty (60) Days within which the commission shall file its report with the City Clerk and if no report is filed within such period the approval of the commission shall be presumed.” Accordingly, the Board of Alders seeks guidance regarding the proposed amendment.

The Board of Alder seeks guidance as to:

- Whether the proposal is aligned with the City’s Comprehensive Plan.
- Whether the proposal is “complete” and meets the criteria set forth in Section 18-2(a)(3) of Title III, Chapter 18, Article I of the City Code.

ADVICE

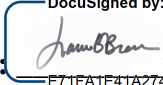
The proposal is aligned with the City’s Comprehensive Plan because it:

- Fosters a greater “sense of place” and neighborhood pride.
- Integrates arts/culture/history into the city’s signage program.
- Increases awareness of local arts, culture, history, and architecture.

However, prior to the Board of Alders rendering any decisions, the Planning Commission suggests having the applicant meet Section 18-2(a)(3) of the City Code by providing the following as required:

- A plan of the site of the proposed location indicating all structures and street features as well as the proposed signage drawn to scale for review by the city.
- That the sign be accompanied by a plaque or similar providing additional historical context and information about Lucretia’s life and impact on the city.

ADOPTED: August 17, 2022
Leslie Radcliffe
Chair

ATTEST:  September 1, 2022 | 3:58
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Laura E Brown
Executive Director, City Plan Department