

## NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

**RE:** **ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS** designating the corner of Chapel Street and Ella T. Grasso Boulevard as “Coach William Thompson Way” to honor William Thompson, beloved coach of the New Haven Age Group Track Club and respected mentor for so many young city athletes.

**REPORT:** 1564-07  
**ADVICE:** Approve

### BACKGROUND

Alder Evette Hamilton, Ward 24 and Alder Darryl J. Brackeen Jr., Ward 26 have submitted an order proposing the corner of Chapel Street and Ella T. Grasso Boulevard, on the boundary line between Ward 24 and Ward 26, to be designated “Coach William Thompson Way” to honor William Thompson, beloved coach of the New Haven Age Group Track Club and respected mentor for many young City athletes. William Thompson, known as “Coach T”, was a beloved coach of the New Have Age Group Track Club for more than 38 years and serviced as a role model and mentor for New Haven youth. The order is accompanied by a petition with over 520 signatures, a letter from William Thompson’s daughter Jacqueline Taft, a tribute poem title “My Inspiration” by Abby Beech former track athlete trained by Coach Thompson, and a sketch of the sign placement.

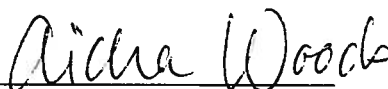
### PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Alder Hamilton and Alder Brackeen have submitted a petition with 523 valid signatures, the majority from the immediate neighborhood. This is more than enough signatures to meet the requirements of the statutes (250 city resident signatures required per General Code of Ordinances Chapter 18, Article I, Section 18-2). The submission includes the official Order which details Coach William Thompson’s life, accomplishments, and contributions to the youth communities in New Haven.

### ADVICE

The Commission finds the Order in the best interest of the City and recommends approval.

**ADOPTED:** December 18, 2019  
Ed Mattison  
Chair

**ATTEST:**   
Aicha Woods  
Director, City Plan Department