

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERS** Designating the corner of Bristol Street and Dixwell Avenue as “Bishop L. McClam Corner” in perpetuity, to honor the life and legacy of Bishop Lethenial McClam who founded and served Union Disciple Unified Freewill Baptist Church.

REPORT: **1580-04**

ADVICE: **Approve**

BACKGROUND

Community members have submitted an order proposing the corner of Bristol Street to be designated as "Bishop L. McClam Corner" to honor the life and legacy of Bishop Lethenial McClam, who founded and served Union Disciple Unified Freewill Baptist Church.

The community would like to honor Bishop Lethenial McClam, remembered as a ‘very personable, intelligent and tell-it-how-it-is man who dedicated his life to serving the people of New Haven with preaching, teaching, and exceptional funeral service.’ Bishop Lethenial McClam, who sadly passed away on October 4, 2016, was the business owner of McClam Funeral Home located on 95 Dixwell Ave for 16 years, as well as the pastor of Union Disciple Unified Freewill Baptist Church for 34 years and one of the founding members of the Original Pilgrims of Faith Quartet Gospel group out of New Haven. Bishop's dedication, devotion, hard work, and good spirits will be greatly missed by the City and mostly the Dixwell Ave community’.

It is fitting that this corner be named in Bishop L. McClam’s honor as a reminder of his contributions to the City of New Haven.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Community members have submitted a petition with more than 250 valid signatures. This meets 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 Bishop L. McClam’s life, accomplishments, and contributions to the Union Disciple Unified Freewill Baptist Church, as well as to residents across the City of New Haven and especially to the Dixwell Avenue community.

ADVICE

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

ADOPTED: January 20, 2021
Edward Mattison
Chair

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