



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10**

215 West 125<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor—New York, NY 10027

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**SYLVIA P. WOODS WAY  
STREET CO-NAMING RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION:** To support West 126<sup>th</sup> Street and Malcolm X Blvd. be Co-Named Sylvia P. Woods Way.

**WHEREAS** Sylvia P. Woods was born on February 2, 1926. Her father was a WWI military veteran. She married Herbert Woods in 1944 and worked at various jobs, including: a beauty shop; hat factory; and from 1954 to 1962, she worked in a restaurant.

**WHEREAS** Sylvia brought her own restaurant in 1962, with an initial total capacity limited to 35 patrons. Her success and hard work resulted in the restaurant's expansion to accommodate 450 patrons. Her family subsequently developed a catering business and an expansive line of Sylvia's food products, which includes: many of her special sauces; vegetables; spices; syrup; corn bread and pan cake mixes. Her products are sold in local shops and specialty stores throughout the world. Sylvia developed two franchises at John F. Kennedy Airport Terminal, as well as having purchased the two remaining stores on Lenox Avenue and several nearby brownstones on 126<sup>th</sup> street. She produced two cookbooks, entitled: "Sylvia's Soul Food Cookbook," published in 1992 and "Sylvia's Family Soul Food Cookbook," published in 1999.

**WHEREAS** Sylvia Woods defined strength, ambition and determination, coupled with her entrepreneurial spirit allowed her to establish a world renowned restaurant. Guests from all over the world dine at her place: "Sylvia's Restaurant."

**WHEREAS** Sylvia Woods worked tirelessly in creating a legacy, which she ultimately passed on to her children and grandchildren. She received countless awards, noteworthy proclamations and appeared in numerous national and international media outlets, as well as having been acknowledged by dignitaries from all over the world. The Woods family founded the Sylvia and Herbert Scholarship Fund, offering college scholarships to local residents of Harlem.

**WHEREAS** Sylvia Woods passed away on July 19, 2012, at her home in Mount Vernon, New York, at the age of 86. She will forever be known as "The Queen of Soul Food."

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** Manhattan Community Board #10 wishes to honor Sylvia Wood's legacy by Co-Naming the street where her restaurant is located on West 126<sup>th</sup> Street and Malcolm X Blvd. - Sylvia P. Woods Way.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that on February 6, 2013 the Manhattan Borough Community Board 10 supports West 126<sup>th</sup> Street and Malcolm X Blvd. be Co-Named Sylvia P. Woods Way with a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.