



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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HENRIETTA LYLE
Chairperson

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Assistant District Manager

November 7, 2013

Hon. Inez Dickens
New York City Council District 9
163 West 125th Street
New York, NY 10027

Re: Hermena Rowe Street Co-Naming

Dear Councilwoman Dickens:

Manhattan Community Board 10 is writing this letter in support of the **Hermena Rowe Street Co-Naming** for the southwest corner of Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Boulevard and 122nd Street.

Hermena Rowe (1929 – 2005), was a resident of Harlem for 62 years. Ms. Rowe was born December 29th, 1929 in Bamberg, South Carolina. She moved to New York City at the age of 14 and began attending public schools. Ms. Rowe graduated from Washington Irving High School. In 1946, she married the late Clarence Rowe. They had a family of nine children which kept Ms. Rowe busy as a devoted mother and housewife. As a concerned parent, Ms. Rowe became engaged as an avid community activist in order to bring about much needed improvements in conditions in her children's schools. In the late 1950's and early 1960's Ms. Rowe served as Secretary of the PS 144 Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) and became an active member of the Wadleigh Junior High School PTA where she was integral in planning and implementing innovative programs. She was also involved in selecting qualified educators and administrators. As a staunch community activist Ms. Rowe worked in collaboration with such leaders as Ennis Francis, Bernice Bolar, Bea Ellis, Vivian Waller, Noreen Clark and Percy Sutton. She helped to bring about positive changes to the social and political climate of the community. Ms. Rowe also worked for a time at the Center for Early Childhood Program and with the East Harlem Scholarship Program, where she was instrumental in awarding scholarships to many deserving minority college students. Over the years, Ms. Rowe also served as a member of several Harlem Community Boards. They include HARYOU-ACT, Neighborhood Board #4, Planning Board #10, The Board of Family Planning and Addicts Rehabilitation Center (ARC). Ms. Rowe was a devoted and active member of Christian Parish for Spiritual Renewal since 1955 under the pastorship of Rev. Eugene S. Callender, Founder.

On Wednesday, November 6th at Manhattan Community Board 10's monthly General Board Meeting, members considered a recommendation by the Parks Recreation & Transportation Committee to co-name the southwest corner of Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Boulevard and 122nd Street to Hermena Rowe.

The Board voted: 32 Yes 0 No 5 Abstentions Not Voting

Manhattan CB 10 is in support of the street co-naming in honor of Ms. Rowe in commemoration of her outstanding contribution to the community.

Sincerely,



Henrietta Lyle
Chair

Cc: Hon. Scott Stringer