

CB3 Beastie Boys Square Resolution

Whereas the Beastie Boys were established in July 1981 as part of the Lower East Side's CBGB punk music scene, and frequently played in that venue;

Whereas the Beastie Boys' first album, "Polly Wog Stew," was recorded at 171A Studios, located at 171 Avenue A in the East Village;

Whereas in 1984, the Beastie Boys were the first white and the first Jewish hip hop group signed to Def Jam records, where they played a significant, early role breaking down racial barriers in 1980s music between rock (white audience) and hip hop (black and Latino audience), which in turn led to a greater cultural understanding and historic reduction in the racial divide between the groups according to the book and 2013 VH1 miniseries "The Tanning of America";

Whereas in 1988 the group released the album "Paul's Boutique," which brought the corner of Ludlow and Rivington Streets on the Lower East Side international fame by featuring an oversized picture of the corner on the cover of the album;

Whereas the cover art from "Paul's Boutique," which *Rolling Stone* magazine named the 156th greatest album of all time in 2009 and the *Village Voice* named 3rd on its list of the 50 Most New York Albums Ever in 2013, continues to draw fans from around the world to the corner of Ludlow and Rivington Streets;

Whereas, the Beastie Boys meet CB3's street renaming guidelines because they have achieved "exceptional and highly acclaimed accomplishment or involvement linked to Manhattan Community Board 3," including that *Rolling Stone* ranked the CB3-founded band 77th on their list of the 100 Greatest Artists of All Time, VH1 ranked them 89th on their list of their 100 Greatest Artists of All Time, and they were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2012;

Whereas the music genre performed by the Beastie Boys, hip hop, was invented in New York City in the 1970s, and therefore bands from New York City who had a major impact on the genre's development are especially worthy of being honored on our city's streets, which are replete with similar honors for artists representing other, non-New York City founded music genres;

Whereas the Beastie Boys were active in numerous political issues of great importance to members of the CB3 community, including (1) their major support for Tibetan freedom efforts, which included their 1994 founding of the Milarepa Fund and the Tibetan Freedom Concert series, which provided major funding for the East Village-based Students for a Free Tibet organization, (2) their 2001 co-forming the New Power Project, a group of musical artists opposed to President George W. Bush's proposal to drill for oil on 2,000 acres of land in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, (3) their outspoken opposition to anti-Muslim prejudice and

Draft of Resolution, Provided to CB3 by Applicant

violence in the years leading up to and preceding the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on New York City, including their post-9/11 founding of New Yorkers Against Violence through the Milarepa Fund, which offered relief efforts for victims of violence, and (4) their very active participation in raising funds for numerous charities including the Food Bank For New York, the Lunchbox Fund, ASPCA and Habitat For Humanity, all of which have directly benefited the residents of CB3;

Whereas in 2012, the premature death of Beastie Boys member Adam Yauch from salivary gland cancer at age 47 resulted in the premature death of the Beastie Boys band as well, which provides another, independent ground through which the Beastie Boys qualify for a street renaming under CB3's guidelines; and

Whereas ___ community members living in the immediate vicinity of the corner of Ludlow and Rivington Streets signed a petition in support of renaming that corner Beastie Boys Square;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Manhattan Community Board #3 supports the renaming of the corner of Ludlow Street and Rivington Street as "Beastie Boys Square"