



IN THE MATTER OF a communication dated June 27, 2024, from the Executive Director of Landmark Preservation Commission regarding the individual landmark designation of the Frederick Douglass Memorial Park, 3201 Amboy Road (Block 4475, Lot 300) by the Landmark Preservation Commission of June 18, 2024 (Designation List No. 541/LP-2682).

Pursuant to Section 3020.8(b) of the City Charter, the City Planning Commission shall submit to the City Council a report with respect to the relation of any designation by the Landmarks Preservation Commission, whether of a historic district or a landmark, to the Zoning Resolution, projected public improvements, and any plans for the development, growth, improvement or renewal of the area involved.

On June 18, 2024, the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) designated the Frederick Douglass Memorial Park as an individual landmark. The site is a 14.88-acre cemetery located at 3201 Amboy Road in the Oakwood Heights neighborhood, CD 3, Special South Richmond Development District, Staten Island.

The landmark designation consists of Block 4475, Lot 300 and is bounded by Montreal Avenue to the north and Amboy Road to the east. The site is associated with being the only extant, non-sectarian cemetery founded by African Americans for African Americans in 1935.

The landmark site is set adjacent to similarly designed memorial parks and cemeteries along Amboy Road developed in the 20th century. The Memorial Park was inaugurated in 1935 with an intention of offering burial sites that would welcome African Americans at a time when discriminatory practices excluded them. The memorial park features an eight-foot monument of

Frederick Douglass, which was dedicated in 1961 and is situated near the entrance of the cemetery. The cemetery office building was constructed between 1947 and 1955, with an enlargement having taken place in 1961 to include a chapel, office, restrooms, garages, and an apartment. The historical significance of the memorial park is defined by the preservation of African American heritage and history, and the continued extension of memorial services to the African American community since its development.

The landmark site is primarily surrounded by one and two-family detached residences within R2, R3-1, R3-2, and R3X districts. There are several designated NYC Landmarks proximate to the site; the closest three are St. Patrick's Church (0.57 miles), Stephens-Prier House (0.62 miles), and (Former) Public School 28 (0.59 miles). There are two C1-2 commercial overlays adjacent the northwestern corner of the site, as well as a C2-1 commercial overlay 0.1 miles south of the site. The Oakwood Heights Staten Island Railway Station is 0.46 miles northeast of the site, while the Bay Terrace Station is 0.41 miles southwest.

The subject landmark is owned by the Frederick Douglass Memorial Park Inc. Pursuant to Section 74-79 of the Zoning Resolution, the unique regulations associated with the transfer of development rights from landmark sites are not applicable to the memorial site, and no additional analysis has been conducted.

The subject landmark does not conflict with the Zoning Resolution. In addition, the Commission is not aware of any conflicts between the subject landmark designation and projected public improvements or any plans for development, growth, improvement, or renewal in the vicinity of the landmark.

DANIEL R. GARODNICK, Esq., *Chair*
KENNETH J. KNUCKLES, Esq., *Vice Chairman*

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