

CITY OF NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS

Ron Hurt
Alder, Ward 3

Member
Aldermanic Affairs Committee
Finance Committee
Black & Hispanic Caucus
New Haven Slavery Task Force

574 Congress Avenue
New Haven, CT 06519-1315

Telephone: (203) 675-5467
E-mail: Ward3@newhavenct.net

April 15, 2024

Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers
President, City of New Haven
Board of Alders
165 Church Street,
New Haven, CT 06510

Dear President Walker-Myers:

I would like to respectfully submit to the Board of Alders the following communication to designate Park Street and South Frontage Road as "Fred Harris Way" in honor of a prominent community activist in New Haven.

Mr. Harris's life and work embodied the spirit of social justice and community empowerment in New Haven's history. From his early involvement in the civil rights movement to his founding of the Hill Parents Association, and his contribution to the establishment of the Hill Health Center. Mr. Harris was hired as Special Assistant to the Director of the Connecticut Mental Health Center in April of 1969. In this role, Mr. Harris sought to facilitate a stronger relationship between the CMHC and the Black and underserved residents of the area.

In the sixties he became deeply engaged with organized and civil rights groups, notably the Black Panther Party. In response to Mayor Richard C. Lee's urban renewal programs of the 1950s, which specifically discriminated against low-income populations of color, Mr. Harris ran for a seat on the Connecticut General Assembly in 1966. During his campaign, he advocated for policies aimed at addressing pollution, environmental degradation, tax burdens, and unaffordable housing.

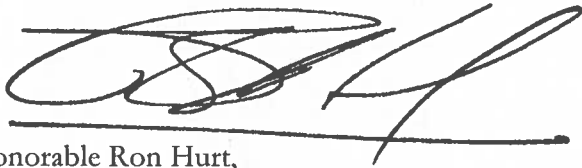
His work offers valuable lessons for our community, particularly for younger generations. Therefore, I ask that the Board approve this communication and recognize the work that Fred Harris has done and



and recognize him by naming the corner of Park Street and South Frontage Road "Fred Harris Way".

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Hurt", written over a horizontal line.

Honorable Ron Hurt,
Alder, Ward 3