CITY OF NEW HAVEN
BOARD OF ALDERS

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Alder, Ward 9

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

Dear President Walker-Myers,

I am writing in strong support of the petition to designate the corner of Bishop Street and State Street as "Bob Frew Corner." This designation would serve as a meaningful and permanent tribute to Bob Frew's extraordinary contributions to the City of New Haven.

Bob Frew's legacy is deeply woven into the civic, architectural, and cultural fabric of our city. He was a tireless public servant who played a pivotal role in the revitalization of State Street and served with distinction on the New Haven Board of Alders. His leadership extended well beyond elected office — including his service as President of Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven, where he helped advance equitable housing opportunities for countless residents. In addition to his civic leadership, Bob Frew was a visionary architect and educator. As a professor at the Yale School of Architecture, he influenced generations of designers and planners, and he made lasting contributions to the early development of Computer-Aided Design (CAD). He also co-founded the Computer Science Department at Southern Connecticut State University, further underscoring his commitment to education, innovation, and public service. Bob Frew was also a cultural bridge-builder. Born in Scotland, he was a founding member of the New Haven Branch of the Royal Country Scottish Dancers, enriching our city's cultural life and strengthening community through shared tradition and creativity.

Naming this corner in Bob Frew's honor is both a fitting and moving tribute to a remarkable New Havener. The intersection of Bishop Street and State Street stands as a symbolic location one that reflects his role in shaping the neighborhood and the broader city. Designating "Bob Frew Corner" would ensure that his legacy of integrity, generosity, creativity, and service remains visible and remembered by future generations. Support for this corner-naming has been echoed by over 250 residents who have signed a petition in support of this action.

For these reasons, I enthusiastically support this petition and urge my colleagues to approve the designation of "Bob Frew Corner" in perpetuity.

Sincerely,

Hon. Caroline Tanbee Smith
Alder, Ward 9