

Series: Local Laws

Box# 050008

Folder# 4

JOHN MCNAMARA
SQUARE, BRONX

1985

Witnesses 4-8-85

William W. Twomey

George Conners

C-M. De Marco

Throgs Neck Home Owners
Ass



Oxford Pendaflex
CORPORATION

STOCK No. 753

• • •

MADE IN U.S.A.

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

INTRO. NO. 872 John Mc Namara Square, By

1/11/85 Comm Bd #10, By - signature

JR 4/8/85

LD 4/11/85

LL 27/85

**LOCAL LAWS
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
FOR THE YEAR 1985**

No. 27

Introduced by Council Member DeMarco; also Council Members Castancira Colon, Crispino, Dear and Wooten.

A LOCAL LAW

To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to an area name, John McNamara Square, Borough of Bronx.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section one. Section B4-20.0 of title B of chapter four of the administrative code of the city of New York is hereby amended by adding thereto a new designation to read as follows:

§B4-20.0 Bronx; change certain area names.—The following area name is hereby designated as hereafter indicated.

New name	Present name	Limits
John McNamara Square	None	An existing triangle formed by the intersection of Randall Avenue, Calhoun Avenue and the service road of the Cross Bronx Expressway.

§2. This Local Law shall take effect immediately.

THE CITY OF NEW YORK, OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, S.S.:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a local law of The City of New York, passed by the Council on April 11, 1985, and approved by the Mayor on April 23, 1985.

DAVID N. DINKINS, City Clerk, Clerk of the Council.

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO MUNICIPAL HOME RULE LAW § 27

Pursuant to the provisions of Municipal Home Rule Law § 27, I hereby certify that the enclosed local law (Local Law 27 of 1985, Council Int. No. 872) contains the correct text and, received the following vote at the meeting of the New York City Council on April 11, 1985: 30 for, 0 against.

Was approved by the Mayor on April 23, 1985.

Was returned to the City Clerk on April 24, 1985.

HADLEY W. GOLD, Acting Corporation Counsel.

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PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAWS

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 1985

3:15 P.M. - CITY HALL

The last bill on today's public hearing calendar is Introductory Number 872, introduced by Mike De Marco and co-sponsored Council Members Colon, Crispino, Dear and Wooten.

The bill would name the triangle at the intersection of Randall and Calhoun Avenues and the Cross Bronx Expressway service road, in the Throggs Neck section of the Bronx, in honor of John J. McNamara, the local Bronx historian. This legislation is unusual for two reasons. First of all, it is rare that the Council elects to name streets or parks in honor of living people, and indeed, while Mr. McNamara is in his seventies, he is very much alive, and still in great demand as a public speaker. The second thing that is unusual about this street-name change legislation is that Mr. McNamara is the author of History in Asphalt, a 569-page history of street-names in the Bronx! What better way for the Throggs Neck community to honor its local historian, John McNamara, than to name this area for him?

John McNamara was born in the Melrose section of the Bronx, but moved to Throggs Neck with his family when he was four. When he was a young boy, McNamara befriended Captain Charlie Ferreira, the lighthouse keeper at Fort Schuyler, who

gave him some old charts of the area. These sparked McNamara's curiosity, and started his life-long interest in Bronx history.

McNamara has never really left Throggs Neck; he married a neighborhood girl, the former Pauline Ungerer, and raised his family there. A freelance writer for more than fifty years, McNamara began his popular Bronx Press-Review column, "The Bronx in History" in 1956. McNamara was a founding member of the Bronx Historical Society, and his interest in local history is almost religious. McNamara has walked every byway, path, street, concourse and avenue in the borough, searching for clues to the origins of their names. His years of meticulous research culminated in the 1978 publication of History in Asphalt, which the Bronx County Historical Society rereleased in a new, expanded edition last summer.

Is there anyone to be heard in opposition?

Is there anyone to be heard in favor?

There being no one [else] to be heard, and for the reasons stated above,

I will now sign the bill.

THE COUNCIL

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

DATE: April 8, 1985

INTRO NO. 667 872

RES. NO. 1396

M- _____

OVERSIGHT SUBJECT: _____

COUNCIL MEMBER	PRESENT	item <u>667-872A</u>			item _____		
		aye	nay	abstain	aye	nay	abstain
WARD							
ROVMAN	(1)	(1)					
ALTER							
FOSTER							
LEFFLER	(2)	(2)					
MALONEY	(3)	(3)					
WOOTEN	(4)	(4)					

TOTAL PRESENT _____ aye _____ nay _____ abstain _____ aye _____ nay _____ abstain _____

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

De Blasio

TIME OF OPENING:

TIME OF ADJOURNMENT:

SPEAKERS:

Submitted by: Edward F. O'Malley

THE COUNCIL
REPORT OF LEGAL SERVICES DIVISION

COMMITTEE ON PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Int. No. 872

By: Council Member DeMarco; also
Council Members Castaneira-
Colon, Crispino and Dear

SUBJECT: In relation to an area name, John McNamara
Square, Borough of the Bronx.

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE: Amends section B4-20.0 of title B of
chapter four.

INTENT: This legislation will name a presently
unnamed triangle, formed by the intersection
of Randall Avenue, Calhoun Avenue and the
service road of the Cross Bronx Expressway,
John McNamara Square.

COMMENT: John McNamara was born on December 22, 1912
in the Melrose section of the Bronx, the youngest son of John and
Elizabeth McNamara. John's family originally came to Throggs Neck
in the summer of 1916 when the Shaw family was renting tent sites
in Edgewater Park. At the early age of ten or eleven, John
received some old charts from Captain Charlie Ferreira, the
lighthouse keeper at Fort Schuyler, which started him on a life-
long career as a Bronx historian.

John eventually married an Edgewater
girl, Pauline Ungerer, and settled there in 1940 to raise a
family. He established himself as a freelance writer and in 1956
began his very popular column "The Bronx in History" for the
Bronx Press-Review.

His avid interest in the History of the Bronx also led him to become a founding member of the Bronx County Historical Society. The same interest caused him to walk each byway, path and street in the borough to search for the origin of each street name. It was a pursuit that entailed years of research, but one he would not abandon. The final result of this endeavor was the publication in 1978 of "Streets of Asphalt," a comprehensive history of every roadway in the Bronx. In the summer of 1984, the 522 page volume was up-dated, expanded to 569 pages and re-released by the Bronx County Historical Society.

As recognition of the great work of Mr. McNamara in keeping historical records of the roadways in the Bronx, it is a most fitting tribute to name this triangle after him.

City Planning notes this bill conforms to the city map. The Community Planning Board is in support of this legislation.

EFO/rt
Int. No. 872
4/8/85

THE COUNCIL

The City of New York

Int. No. 872

December 6, 1984

Introduced by Council Member DeMarco; also Council Members Castaneira Colon, Crispino and Dear—read and referred to the Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs.

A LOCAL LAW

To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to an area name, John McNamara Square, Borough of Bronx.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

1 Section one. Section B4-20.0 of title B of chapter four of the administrative code of the city of New
2 York is hereby amended by adding thereto a new designation to read as follows:

3 § B4-20.0. Bronx, change certain area names.—The following area name is hereby designated as
4 hereafter indicated.

5	New name	Present name	Limits
7	John McNamara Square	None	An existing triangle formed by the intersection of Randall Avenue, Calhoun Avenue and the service road of the Cross Bronx Express- way.

14 § 2. This local law shall take effect immediately.

Note: Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [] to be omitted.



Stanley Simon
Borough President

Bronx Community Board No. 10

3100 WILKINSON AVENUE

BRONX, NEW YORK 10461

(212) 892-1161

Virginia Gallagher
Chairperson

James Vacca
District Manager

January 31, 1985

Councilman Michael DeMarco
80 Westchester Square
Bronx, New York 10461

Dear Councilman DeMarco:

Please be advised that at the last meeting of Community Board #10, the following resolution was adopted:

"RESOLVED...at the recommendation of the Executive Committee that Community Board #10 support naming of the existing traffic island located at Randall Avenue, Calhoun Avenue and the Cross Bronx Expressway Service Road, as John McNamara Square. We note that this legislation is embodied in proposed City Council Local Law #872. Mr. McNamara, a Throggs Neck resident, is a noted Bronx Historian."

We are aware that you have introduced this legislation in the City Council and we are supportive of it's passage.

Sincerely,

Virginia M. Gallagher
Virginia M. Gallagher
Chairperson

VG:rt

Intro #872

Ann —

*As per your
request*

Madeline

MICHAEL DEMARCO
COUNCIL MEMBER, 12TH DISTRICT, BRONX
80 WESTCHESTER SQUARE
BRONX, N. Y. 10461



Igor Stravinsky



Hon. Thomas Cuite
Majority Leader
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

*Adrienne
Flora
Jm*

THE COUNCIL

The City of New York

Int. No. 872

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2			way.
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Dec. 20, 1984

872

Dear Mr. Jacobson:

am

Mr. Solomon Jacobson
Municipal Reference & Research Center
31 Chambers St., Room 112
New York, NY 10007

Dec. 20, 1984

872

Dear Mr. Sturz:

am

Mr. Herbert Sturz, Chairman
Dept. of City Planning
2 Lafayette St.
New York, NY 10007

Dec. 20, 1984

872

Dear Commissioner Ward:

am

Commissioner Benjamin Ward
NYC Police Department
1 Police Plaza
New York, NY 10038

Dec. 20, 1984

872

Dear Borough President Simon:

am

Borough President Stanley Simon
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, NY 10451

THE COUNCIL

The City of New York

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Prepared By
Legal Services Division

By Council Member DeMarco:

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§2. This local law shall take effect immediately.

EFO/rt
LS#1574
12-4-84

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON

Int. No.

Prepared By
Legal Services Division

By Council Member DeMarco:

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EFO/rt
LS#1574
12-4-84

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON



THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

LEGAL SERVICES DIVISION
250 BROADWAY, 23RD FLOOR
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007.
(212) 566-8433

(212) 566-8421
(212) 566-8433

December 4, 1984

TO: Council Member DeMarco
FROM: Legal Services Division
RE: Street name change - John McNamara Square

The attached material was prepared at your request. If it is to be introduced, you may indicate below that you have received and approved the draft and please forward it in triplicate copies to Thomas J. Cuite, Majority Leader, City Hall. If you forward the legislation in an amended form, I would appreciate a copy for our files.

The enclosed list of interested persons, who may wish to comment on this proposal, should be submitted to the Majority Leader along with this draft local law.

A copy of the above resolution or local law has been sent to Council Member _____ for introduction.

Gary Altman (for HNF)
HARVEY N. FERTIG
Director

LS # 1574

Edward F. O'Malley
BY: Edward F. O'Malley
Legislative Attorney

Thomas J. Cuite

Please introduce this legislation.

Council Member's Signature