

REPLACEMENT ITEM #22

INTRODUCED BY:

Maly D. Rosado, Council President
Councilwoman Wildaliz Bermudez
Councilman Joshua Michtom
Councilwoman Marilyn Rossetti
Councilwoman Shirley Surgeon
Councilman John Gale
Councilman James Sanchez
Councilman Nick Lebron

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

City of Hartford, April 26, 2021

WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente was an American baseball legend who embodied the values of leadership, compassion, and care; and

WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente won two Major League Baseball World Series Championships, was named World Series Most Valuable Player, and was an All-Star for 12 seasons; and

WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente was the first Puerto Rican inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, In 1958 Roberto Clemente enlisted into the United States Marine Corps and served until 1964; and

WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente was committed to caring and helping those in need, regardless of their location; and

WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente selflessly chose to travel to an earthquake-ridden Nicaragua to provide humanitarian aid; and

WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente's plane crashed shortly after taking off from Isla Verde International Airport/Aeropuerto Internacional de Isla Verde on December 31, 1972; and

WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente passed away in that plane crash at the age of thirty-eight (38) years old; and

WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente's passion and advocacy demonstrated the positive influence that professional athletes could have on improving the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente remains an icon to many Puerto Ricans, Hispanic, and Latinos in the United States and Latin America; and

WHEREAS, Major League Baseball presents an annual Roberto Clemente Award to the player that best embodies Roberto Clemente's value of service to others and represents the game of baseball through extraordinary character, community involvement, philanthropy, and positive contributions, both on and off the field; and

WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente was inducted into the Marine Corps Hall of Fame in 2003 and into the Puerto Rican Veterans Hall of Fame 15 years later; and

WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente was posthumously presented three civilian awards from the President of the United States including the Roberto Clemente Walker Congressional Gold Medal from President Nixon in 1973, the Presidential Citizens Medal in 1973, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Bush in 2003; and

WHEREAS, The City of Hartford is home to Roberto Clemente Field in the city's Colt Park; and

WHEREAS, The crash site in the adjacent area to Playa Aviones in the municipality of Loíza, Puerto Rico, was the last place where Roberto Clemente graced this world; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, In honor of Roberto Clemente, the city of Hartford respectfully calls on the United States Secretary of the Interior to recognize the historical significance of Roberto Clemente's place of death in Loíza, Puerto Rico, by adding it to the National Register of Historical Places.