TESTIMONY OF ANGIE MASTER NOMINEE TO THE LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION BEFORE THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, & ELECTIONS JANUARY 9, 2023

Good morning, Speaker Adams, Chair Powers, and members of the Rules, Privileges, & Elections Committee and thank you for this opportunity to testify before you. I am so honored to be nominated by Mayor Eric Adams for consideration to serve on the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission.

My name is Angie Master. I was born in Busan, South Korea and I am a proud Korean-American immigrant who grew up on the West Coast in Spokane, Washington. I graduated from Stanford University with a BA in International Relations and an MA in International Educational Policy. I later earned an MBA from Columbia University. I am a proud resident of Staten Island for the last 30 years.

I have always loved history. It was my favorite course in high school and college. This love of history has given me a deep personal appreciation of historic landmarked sites. I believe they play an important role as physical remnants that tie us to history. By designating and preserving these landmarks, we get a glimpse into the past. I know this firsthand. I grew up in Spokane, Washington, which was established in 1881. When I first moved to Staten Island, I was filled with awe that I was living amongst buildings that existed during the Revolutionary War. On Staten Island, I was told that George Washington marched along Amboy Road, and Fort Wadsworth and the Conference House played pivotal roles in the Revolutionary War. It made real an event that I had only read about in history textbooks.

As a Korean-American immigrant and a transplant to the East Coast, I appreciate more than most that one cannot take for granted the importance of landmarked sites to retain a sense of history and place.

For almost 10 years, while based in Staten Island, I have practiced commercial real estate across New York City. I facilitate commercial sales and leasing in sectors as varied as retail, restaurants, churches, schools, and offices. On Staten Island, many of my clients are mom and pop small businesses. I enjoy working with them and hearing about the successes and challenges they face doing business in NYC. My specialty or niche is working with non-profit groups. I love working with these groups because it is satisfying to help them fulfill their mission. For example, I have worked with the JCC of Staten Island to find a new location for the Sunrise Day Camp which provides free summer camp to children diagnosed with cancer and their siblings. That was one of the projects of which I am most proud. As a realtor, I have also worked with Eden II, which provides programs and education for the autistic community, Meals on Wheels, the Pride Center of Staten Island, and various churches and mosques.

In addition to my real estate skills, I can also contribute my knowledge of Staten Island to LPC. Even though Staten Island has a population of almost 500,000, we have a small town feel and there are few degrees of separation among us. I have been deeply involved in my community

with strong ties to many of its cultural, social, and non-profit institutions. I currently serve on the Board of the JCC of Staten Island, and have supported and/or volunteered at the Staten Island Museum, City Harvest, Historic Richmond Town, Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Seaman's Society for Children amongst other organizations.

Prior to practicing real estate, I worked in marketing as a brand manager for Schering Plough Healthcare Products, Nabisco, and Avon. I have also taught marketing courses as an Adjunct Professor at Wagner College in the MBA program. This business background taught me strong analytical and problem-solving skills. I enjoy collaborating with others and forging a consensus amongst different stakeholders, which would be integral to furthering LPC's work throughout this city.

In sum, landmarked sites on Staten Island have played a significant role in my life. I took my children to the annual Historic Richmond Town fair, art classes at Snug Harbor, musical concerts at the Alice Austen House, bike riding at Fort Wadsworth and the annual Lessons and Carols at St. Paul's Memorial Church. These landmarked sites provided countless precious memories for me and my family.

I am extremely honored to be nominated to serve on this Commission. If confirmed, I look forward to helping preserve local landmarks, which promote the history and character of our unique neighborhoods.

THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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