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***Mayor Fulop and City Council Dedicate 100 Steps Project in Jersey City Heights to Jersey City's Longest Serving Councilman & Champion of Project, Bill Gaughan***

***Councilman Gaughan Served Five Terms Under Four Mayors Never Losing an Election and Worked Tirelessly to Improve the Heights Community***

**JERSEY CITY – Mayor Steven M. Fulop** and members of the **Jersey City Municipal Council**, as well as **local community members**, joined today to dedicate the **100 Steps project** connecting the Jersey City Heights to Hoboken as “**Bill Gaughan Way**” unveiling a monument and plaque in honor of Jersey City’s longest serving councilman and champion of the plan.

“Today is a special and historic day, as we dedicate the 100 Steps in honor of our city’s longest serving councilman, Bill Gaughan,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “In his 20 years on the Council, Bill never lost sight of the goal of restoring these steps for the residents of the Heights and bringing countless improvements to the community. It is an honor to dedicate The 100 Steps as ‘Bill Gaughan Way’.”

In January, the City Council passed an ordinance naming the 100 Steps in Councilman Gaughan’s honor. During the ceremony, officials unveiled a stone monument at the top of the steps featuring a plaque dedicating the stairway as “**Bill Gaughan Way**.”

The inscription on the plaque reads: “*Bill Gaughan represented the Heights on the Jersey City Municipal Council from 1993 to 2013, and dedicated countless hours to many community organizations across the city. For his years of public service, Gaughan is loved and respected, having greatly enhanced the quality of life for all Jersey City residents.*”

The longest serving councilman in Jersey City history, Bill Gaughan moved to Jersey City in 1959 after serving in the United States Navy. He represented the Heights community of Jersey City for 20 years, being first elected in 1993 with Mayor Bret Schundler. He served five terms under four mayors and never lost a single election.

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During his twenty-year tenure on the Council, Bill Gaughan spearheaded numerous initiatives which improved both his ward and the City such as bringing Hudson-Bergen Light Rail service to Congress Street, creating more affordable-housing in the Heights, successfully advocating for the renovation of Washington Park and for the completion of the 100 Steps project connecting the Heights with Franklin Street, Paterson Plank Road, Hoboken and the Second Street Light Rail Station.

“This is a great honor,” said **former Councilman Bill Gaughan** of the dedication. “I want to thank Mayor Fulop and the City Council for recognizing me in this very special way.”

The 100 Steps project is a restoration of the original “**Franklin Street Steps**” which were built more than a century ago and were torn down in the 1990s. The new steps provide one of the quickest and easiest access routes for Heights residents to reach Hoboken.

The \$1 million project consists of a metal stairway with open grate treads on concrete piers, concrete curb and sidewalk at the approaches, a chain link fence, decorative lights, landscaping and signs.

“It is truly fitting that Bill Gaughan is receiving this honor,” said **Hudson County Executive Tom DeGise**. “The 100 Steps are a Heights landmark – and in his own way, so is Billy.”

**All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699. ///**