

Date: November 9, 2025

To: Citizen Advisory Committee on the Naming of Public Buildings, Facilities, and Streets

From: Steve O'Connell, resident of Grasslyn Manor in Sherman Park

As a resident of Grasslyn Manor in Sherman Park and former member of the Sherman Park Community Association (SPCA) and Executive Director of the aforementioned Association, I am writing to support the resolution assigning the honorary street name "Rabbi Michel Twerski" to North 51st Blvd from West Burleigh to West Keefe Avenue in the 7th Aldermanic District.

As all of us realize, stability in neighborhoods like Sherman Park is something to be sought after. The Jewish community in that area, under the leadership of Rabbi Twerski and his Rabbi sons, is a prime example of a stable neighborhood. When I served on the SPCA Board, I was the chair of the Land Use Council. We valued neighborhoods that were well organized and whose residents were engaged in keeping their area safe, clean, and well organized. Block watches were also a valued part of our community; this targeted area has a well organized block club with very good resident leaders. They meet on a regular basis and keep all their neighbors well informed.

And lest we forget, the Yeshiva is an educational hallmark K-8 religious school serving about 200+ children, many of whom live in the area. Walking to school everyday is a rite of passage for the children as well as the families. And, of course, the Synagogue—Beth Jehudah—is a treasure of organized Hasidic Jewish faith and worship. We all are aware of the Rites of Faith as the many families make their way to the Synagogue on the Sabbath and during the many holidays and days of religious observance during the year.

Naming this couple blocks in recognition of all that Rabbi Twerski has done for this area is an honor and a way to show that the City of Milwaukee values stable neighborhoods that are led by distinctive individuals as religious leaders.

Thanks for considering this honor!

Sincerely,

Steve O'Connell
3810 N. 56th St.