

**CITY OF CAMDEN REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
**RESOLUTION SUMMARY**

**RAMP**

**Resolution No.: 01-14-26J**

**Resolution Title:**

**Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with the New Jersey Historical Commission for Installation of a New Jersey Black Heritage Trail Historical Marker in the Right of Way Located at 428 Stevens Street Designated as Block 178, Lot 13 of the City of Camden Tax Map in the Lanning Square Redevelopment Area**

**Project Summary:**

- The CRA owns the property known as 428 Stevens Street (Block 178, Lot 13) (the “Property”).
- The City of Camden desires to nominate the Property to the New Jersey Historical Commission (the “Historical Commission”) for the installation of a New Jersey Black Heritage Trail historical marker for the Locke Family (as described in Exhibit A). The marker would be located in the right of way of the Property.
- The City of Camden has entered into an agreement with the New Jersey Historical Commission for the city to host an annual historical and/or educational program related to the significance of this site and other sites of historic markers within the city. This historical and/or educational program can include tours, discussions, performances, and events.
- CRA desires to support the city’s nomination of the Property by entering into an agreement to allow the installation of the historic marker.
- The New Jersey Historical Commission, under the terms of the agreement, will be responsible for all costs associated with the design, installation, and maintenance repairs and/or replacement the historic marker, if the nomination is approved.
- CRA, as the current property owner, will be responsible for contacting the Historical Commission for maintenance, repair, and/or replacement in the event of the marker damage, vandalism, or loss.
- In event of the sale or transfer of the property CRA will have to notify the New Jersey Historical Commission so that a similar agreement may be made with the new property owner.

**Purpose of Resolution:**

Authorize an agreement with the New Jersey Historical Commission

**Award Process:**

N/A

**Resolution No.: 01-14-26J (cont'd)**

**Cost Not to Exceed:**

N/A

**Total Project Cost:**

\$0.00

**Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with the New Jersey Historical Commission for Installation of a New Jersey Black Heritage Trail Historical Marker in the Right of Way Located at 428 Stevens Street Designated as Block 178, Lot 13 of the City of Camden Tax Map in the Lanning Square Redevelopment Area**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Camden Redevelopment Agency (“CRA”) owns the property known as 428 Stevens Street designated as Block 178, Lot 13 of the City of Camden Tax Map (the “Property”); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Camden desires to nominate the Property to the New Jersey Historical Commission for the installation of a New Jersey Black Heritage Trail historical marker for the Locke Family Home for their significant legacy in the education of African Americans in the city (see Exhibit A); and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Black Heritage Trail historical markers are being erected for the purpose of connecting our residents and visitors with the complex histories and contributions of African Americans in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the City entered into an agreement with the New Jersey Historical Commission for the city upon nomination and approval of sites for installation of New Jersey Black Heritage Trail historical markers to host an annual historical and/or educational program including tours, discussions, and other events related to the significance of this site and other sites of historic markers within the city; and

**WHEREAS**, CRA desires to support the city’s nomination of the Property by entering into an agreement with the New Jersey Historical Commission to allow the installation of the historic marker; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Historical Commission upon approval of the Property nomination and agreement will be responsible for all costs associated with the design, installation, and maintenance repairs and/or replacement the historic marker; and

**WHEREAS**, once installed, the historical marker will become state property, and

**WHEREAS**, CRA, as the property owner, will be responsible for notifying the New Jersey Historical Commission for maintenance, repair, and/or replacement of the marker in the event of damage, vandalism, or loss and for notifying the state in the event of the sale or transfer of the property; and new property owner.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the governing body of the City of Camden Redevelopment Agency, that the Executive Director, a duly authorized representative of the Agency, is hereby authorized and directed to enter into an Agreement with the New Jersey State Historical Commission for the City of Camden’s nomination of the Locke Family site located at 428 Stevens Street designated as Block 178, Lot 13 of the City of Camden Tax Map (the “Property”) and if nomination is approved, to allow the state to erect a New Jersey Black Heritage Trail Historical marker in the right of way of the Property; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take all actions and execute all documents necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

01-14-26J (cont'd)

ON MOTION OF: Maria Sharma

SECONDED BY: Tasha Gainey-Humphrey

COMMISSIONER	AYES	NAYS	ABSTENTIONS
Christopher Collins	X		
Gilbert Harden, Sr.	X		
Tasha Gainey-Humphrey	X		
Ian K. Leonard	X		
Jose Javier Ramos	X		
Maria Sharma	X		

*Ian K. Leonard*

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Ian K. Leonard  
Chairperson



ATTEST:

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Olivette Simpson  
Executive Director

The above has been reviewed and approved as to form.

*Mark P. Asselta*

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Mark P. Asselta, Esq.  
Board Counsel

## Exhibit A

**City of Camden's New Jersey Historic Commission Nomination of  
The Locke Family – Excellence in Education for  
A New Jersey Black Heritage Trail Historical Marker in the Right of Way of Property  
Known as 428 Stevens Street Designated as Block 178, Lot 13  
of the City of Camden Tax Map**

The Locke family of educators, started with Ishmael, who opened one of the first Black schools in Camden, and went on to establish several schools in the African country of Liberia. Mary Locke was an educator in the Camden city schools for about 35 years, including a stint at the Octavius V. Catto School, she "was very well known and very well loved." Mary's son, Alain, was the first Black Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, earning that distinction in about 1907, according to Dolly Marshall, Historic Preservation Specialist for the city. Later in life, Alain developed materials that, in their time, were frequently used to teach Black history. He also established the "New Negro" philosophical concept, which is said to have spurred the well-known artistic era spanning much of the 1920s and 1930s known as the Harlem Renaissance, according to the National Museum of African American History and Culture's website.

