

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO.

169-2021

A RESOLUTION TO CEREMONIALLY DESIGNATE A PORTION OF THE COUNTY ROAD KNOWN AS MIDDLE NECK ROAD AT THE CORNER OF CEDAR DRIVE IN GREAT NECK AS “GREAT GATSBY WAY”, AND DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO INSTALL CONSPICUOUS SIGNAGE ALONG SAID ROADWAY

WHEREAS, the American author F. Scott Fitzgerald has been considered by scholars and literary enthusiasts to be one of the most important writers of the twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, F. Scott Fitzgerald’s seminal novel, “The Great Gatsby” has been referred to as one of the greatest novels ever written and is an integral part of the literature curricula in many U.S. high schools and postsecondary education institutions; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2020 article by the Associated Press, worldwide sales of “The Great Gatsby” are “nearing 30 million and more than 500,000 copies sell each year in the U.S. alone”; and

WHEREAS, the popularity of the novel and its cultural significance has inspired cinematic, theatrical, and made-for-television adaptations depicting F. Scott Fitzgerald’s artistic vision of Nassau County’s Gold Coast during the Jazz Age of the 1920’s; and

WHEREAS, F. Scott Fitzgerald resided in Great Neck for nearly two years from October 1922 to April 1924 deriving inspiration from iconic locations and architecture as well as social events while he penned “The Great Gatsby”; and

WHEREAS, to pay homage to F. Scott Fitzgerald’s “The Great Gatsby” as the centennial year of the novel is approaching, it would be of great significance to Great Neck and provide an opportunity within Nassau County to promote awareness about the literary legacy of the critically-acclaimed author and former resident; and

WHEREAS, it is important for Great Neck to receive recognition as a location that inspired F. Scott Fitzgerald’s contribution to American literary history, to draw attention to the municipality, and to celebrate a place that many residents fondly refer to as a jewel among the North Shore’s villages; and

WHEREAS, it would be a fitting tribute to the respected author and reinforce a sense of pride in the residents of Great Neck to ceremonially designate a portion of the County road known as Middle Neck Road at Cedar Drive be known as “Great Gatsby Way” with a marker in the form of a sign stating the following: F. Scott Fitzgerald resided in the Village of Great Neck during 1922 through 1924 while writing “The Great Gatsby”; and

WHEREAS, said designation is hereby declared a public purpose; NOW THEREFORE
BE IT

RESOLVED, that the portion of the County road known as Middle Neck Road at Cedar Drive be known as “Great Gatsby Way” with a marker in the form of a sign stating the following: F. Scott Fitzgerald resided in the Village of Great Neck during 1922 through 1924 while writing “The Great Gatsby”; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Department of Public Works is directed to install conspicuous signage along the County road known as Middle Neck Road at Cedar Drive to ceremonially designate the road as “Great Gatsby Way” with a marker in the form of a sign stating that “F. Scott Fitzgerald resided in the Village of Great Neck during 1922 through 1924 while writing “The Great Gatsby””, and all County agencies and departments are directed to take immediate steps to effectuate this ceremonial designation with signage; and be it further

RESOLVED, that such designation shall in no case be construed to change the official name of the roadway from Middle Neck Road.