



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
CITY OF CHICAGO

September 15, 2025

Alderman Brian Hopkins
2nd Ward
121 North LaSalle Street, Room 300
Chicago, Illinois 60602
brian.hopkins@cityofchicago.org

RE: Washington Square Park
Washington Square District

Requested determination of feasibility to construct a new Dog-Friendly Area in the historic Washington Square Park.

Dear Alderman Hopkins:

The Permit Review Committee (the "Committee") of the Commission on Chicago Landmarks (the "Commission") reviewed the project (the "Project") referenced above on Thursday, September 11, 2025. The Historic Preservation Division of the City's Department of Planning and Development presented various pieces of information to the Committee for review, including the following:

- a. Dog-Friendly Area proposal dated 8/22/25.

The Permit Review Committee determined and advised that the various alterations that would be part of any potential proposal for a Dog-Friendly Area in Washington Square Park, including physical barriers such as fencing, extensive paving of green space, permanent shade structures, etc., would have an adverse effect on the historic design and significant features of the park, would not be consistent with the Commission's Standards and guidelines, and therefore would not be approved.

If you have any questions, please contact me at emily.barton@cityofchicago.org.

Sincerely,

Emily Barton
Architect II
Historic Preservation Division