

\* Late item F2 \*

March 1, 2022

To the Bristol Town Council:

I am writing in support of the Bristol Middle Passage Ceremonies and Port Marker Project's effort to place a permanent memorial to those who were transported by the transatlantic slave trade on public land near the State Street dock.

As a former resident of Bristol and University Archivist at Roger Williams University, I am well aware of the role Bristol played in the slave trade over a span of centuries. There is no question that the effects of that injustice continue to resonate today. The first step toward speaking the unspoken and helping the Bristol community heal needs to be a permanent public acknowledgement.

I strongly support this project and thank you for reading my comments.

Sincerely,

Heidi Benedict, University Archivist  
Roger Williams University  
One Old Ferry Rd.  
Bristol, Rhode Island

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND  
2022 FEB 28 AM 9:04

