



POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS

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The Honorable Steven Fulop
Mayor
Jersey City, NJ 07302

Dear Mayor Fulop,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Polish American Congress, which is the umbrella organization representing major Polish-American organizations throughout the United States and over 10 million Polish Americans

With your announcement last week of the proposed removal of Katyń Memorial monument on Exchange Place, our offices have been inundated with phone calls and messages concerning your decision.

To remedy this sensitive situation, we need to create a dialogue and resolve this matter in a professional manner, with consideration to the Polish American community.

This monument honors the victims of the 1940 Soviet massacre of Polish Officers and civilians and documents the torture they endured. For Poles around the world, it is a painful reminder of Poland's betrayal by the Soviet Union and by extension the atrocities of war. Andrzej Pityński's statue is an anti-totalitarian symbol that reminds us to be vigilant and perseverant in our commitment to historical truth.

Based on the documents I was able to obtain, the City of Jersey City enacted a resolution establishing a plaza for the placement of the Katyń Monument.

The Municipal Council of the City of Jersey City approved the following Resolution:

“Now therefore be it resolved, by the Municipal Council of the City of Jersey City that there is hereby established a Plaza for the placement of a monument to honor the brave deceased members of the Polish Office Corp which Plaza shall be known as the Katyń Monument Plaza and which shall be located on the southerly side of Exchange Place opposite the Path Station in the area designated on the attached Exchange Place Center Engineering drawing and map.”

We do understand the need for improvements in the current location, however; it is imperative that this monument will be returned to its current location.

We would hope that you are open to discuss this matter and are available to meet at your convenience.

Respectfully,


Frank J. Spula,
President