



CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, N.Y.
OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

Darren M. Morton, Ed.D., CPRP, CMFO
Comptroller

City Hall, One Roosevelt Square
Mount Vernon, NY, 10550
(914) 665-2303

October 30, 2025

Honorable Members of the Mount Vernon City Council

City Hall
1 Roosevelt Square
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

Re: COMP2025-19 – Request for Approval to Mount a Portrait of Former Comptroller Maureen Walker

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council,

I respectfully submit this request for the Council's approval to mount a portrait of Former Comptroller **Maureen Walker** in City Hall, **outside of the Finance Department on the Ground Floor.**

Ms. Walker honorably served the City of Mount Vernon as Comptroller for **twenty-four years (six consecutive terms)**, from **1994 to 2017**. She holds the historic distinction of being the **first person of African descent—specifically of Caribbean heritage—and the first woman** to serve in this elected role. Her trailblazing tenure represents a significant chapter in Mount Vernon's history, defined by fiscal stewardship, professional excellence, and a deep commitment to the welfare of the City's residents.

A native of Plaisance, Guyana, Ms. Walker is a New York State Certified Public Accountant. She holds an MBA in Finance from the University of New Haven and a B.Sc. in Accounting (magna cum laude) from Brooklyn College. Before her election, she worked as an Auditor with Arthur Andersen & Company and as a Senior Financial Analyst with The Equitable Life Assurance Company.

Upon her election in 1993, Ms. Walker embarked on a career in public service marked by transparency, discipline, and accountability. Under her leadership, the City of Mount Vernon maintained financial stability, achieved consistent budget surpluses, and earned the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for multiple years—an acknowledgment of the City's sound fiscal management.

As Comptroller, Ms. Walker oversaw the Finance and Payroll Departments, managed the City's budget, insurance, tax collection, real estate, and capital projects financing, while also serving on

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the Board of Estimate, the Mount Vernon Renewal Agency, the Industrial Development Agency, and the Capital Projects Board.

In addition to her public service, Ms. Walker has been a dedicated Adjunct Professor of Finance and Accounting at Iona College and an active member of several professional organizations, including the New York State Government Finance Officers' Association, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and the Westchester Municipal Finance Association.

Her legacy extends far beyond City Hall. Ms. Walker has been a tireless advocate for education, youth development, and community service—mentoring countless young professionals and serving with organizations such as Junior Achievement of Hudson Valley, the Mount Vernon Business and Professional Women's Club, and numerous faith-based and civic groups. Her outstanding service has been recognized with over twenty community and professional awards, including citations from the U.S. Congress, Mount Vernon Hospital, and numerous civic and cultural associations.

Mounting her portrait within City Hall—outside of the Finance Department where she faithfully served for nearly a quarter century—would be a fitting and enduring tribute to her exemplary service and pioneering achievements. It would also serve as an inspiration to future generations of Mount Vernon residents who aspire to serve their community with integrity and distinction.

Should the Council approve this request, the Comptroller's Office will **coordinate with Former Comptroller Walker for the donation of the portrait** and its installation in accordance with City protocols. Any cost associated with the installation will **not exceed \$750 and charged to A1315.203 -Equipment.**

Thank you for your consideration and support in honoring one of Mount Vernon's most accomplished and devoted public servants.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D. Morton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Darren M. Morton, Ed.D., CMFO, CPRP
Comptroller, City of Mount Vernon