

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 1

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October 15, 2015

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DEL TEAGUE

Commissioner Vicki Been New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development 100 Gold Street New York, NY 10038

RE: Greenpoint Hospital Site

Dear Commissioner Been:

I am compelled to write to you once again (and several times to your predecessors) regarding this ill fated acreage in our district.

When the hospital, without warning, shut its doors back in 1982 residents were devastated. Many lost jobs, services and were left severely negatively impacted by a City abandoned facility.

Then on August 16, 1983 the Administration again violated the community without warning and smuggled in by dead of night, a homeless shelter for well over 300 men. Before long the shelter's census skyrocketed to 700 beds, and then in subsequent years, exploding to over 1,000 beds for a single night's turnover!

We wrote to Mayor Koch and implored him to "start planning with our community and not for our community. We stated that "Consultation by decree will not be tolerated by our Board."

Upon the closure of the hospital, the community quickly rallied, choosing to cooperatively work on the site's redevelopment, and formed the Greenpoint Hospital Task Force. the nucleus consortium of the Greenpoint Renaissance Enterprise Corporation (G.R.E.C.). In 1984 the City released an RFP to redevelop the overall hospital campus and G.R.E.C. responded with the community's vision and garnered promises from the Administration for the site. However, these promises were reneged upon by the Administration, forcing the community to file a lawsuit and win the development rights over four of the buildings at the site. HPD issued a new RFP where an outside developer from the Bronx was chosen. In this RFP process, G.R.E.C. was number two in the running. Corruption quickly surrounded this outside Bronx developer and they were removed from the project. The community continues to demonstrate its support for G.R.E.C., just as we too, advocate for their selection.

After viewing the presentation from your team at last evenings board meeting, I am concerned that "lightening is about to strike twice" in the same area!

CB #1 has been steadfast in its support for the G.R.E.C. organization proposal. The community is overwhelmingly in support of this multifaceted entity.

With all of the aforementioned in mind, and even if the footprint of the site has changed, there is no reason why the specs of the "proposed new plan" could not be provided and sole sourced to G.R.E.C.

Constituents of Community Board #1 have lived, worked, and even died on this site.

It is only fitting that the Phoenix of this redevelopment be entrusted to them.

Working for a Better Williamsburg-Greenpoint.

Sincerely,

Dealice Fuller Chairperson

DF/GAE/mbw

cc: Mayor Bill di Blasio
Comptroller Scott Stringer
Public Advocate Letitia James
Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams
Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito
Council Member Antonio Reynoso
Council Member Stephen T. Levin
Assemblywoman Maritza-Davila
Assemblyman Joseph Lentol
Senator Daniel Squadron
Senator Martin Malave Dilan

Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney

Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez