



FROM THE OFFICE OF MARGARET S. CHIN
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER – DISTRICT 1 MANHATTAN

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE • 250 BROADWAY, SUITE 1804, NY NY 10007 • (212) 788 - 7259
DISTRICT OFFICE • 165 PARK ROW, SUITE 11, NY NY 10038 • (212) 587 - 3159

**** NEWS RELEASE ****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 10/13/2011

CONTACT:
KELLY MAGEE, DIRECTOR COMMUNICATIONS
(212) 788 – 7259
(917) 828 – 3634

**Council member Chin speaks to Occupy Wall Street protesters
and calls for a meeting with community stakeholders**

New York, NY – Despite several meetings between representatives from Occupy Wall Street and members of Community Board 1’s Quality of Life and Finance Committees, protesters in Zuccotti Park have not made enough progress in stopping late night noise, and other “good neighbor policies.”

Tonight, Council member Chin attended a press conference at Occupy Wall Street called by the Working Families Party, the Strong Economy for All Coalition, United NY, and New York Communities for Change.

At the press conference, Council member Chin reiterated the urgent need for protesters to address the serious concerns of the surrounding community.

“As a City Council representative and a member of the Progressive Caucus, I support the protesters right to freedom of speech and assembly. During the past four weeks, lower Manhattan residents have been supportive even though the burden of this occupation has fallen on them alone,” Council member Chin said.

“I appeal to those in Zuccotti Park to respect the surrounding community. This means taking visible steps to stop the noise, clean up, and respect private property. This is a neighborhood of working families. There are two schools within hearing distance of this site. This is a residential community that deserves your respect.”

“I hope that moving forward Occupy Wall Street can prove they are serious about addressing the concerns of this community. I am available to help in any way to make that happen. I ask Mayor Bloomberg to work with the protesters and I urge both sides to keep this movement peaceful.”

As a follow up, Council member Chin has organized a meeting of community stakeholders, to take place Friday, October 14th, and including representatives from Occupy Wall Street. This meeting is contingent on what happens tomorrow morning in Zuccotti Park. An update regarding the meeting and attendees will be sent tomorrow morning.

In addition, Council member Chin sent two letters to Deputy Mayor Caswell Holloway and Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly, asking for revisions of the security situation around Street and increased enforcement of the noise code and city laws in and around Zuccotti Park.

“While I uphold the right of the protesters to demonstrate, that does not mean they are exempt from the law,” said Council member Chin. “It is my hope that we can have an open, productive exchange and that representatives from Occupy Wall Street will accept this invitation to meet with members of the community.”

Last week, Council member Chin met with NYPD Community Affairs to how sidewalk blockades on Wall Street have negatively affected residents and local businesses. Residents in the area continue to experience overcrowded sidewalks, problems with access to their buildings, and blocked streets.