



*THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
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***COUNCIL MEMBERS MARGARET CHIN AND ROSIE MENDEZ  
ISSUE JOINT STATEMENT AHEAD OF COMMUNITY BOARD 3  
TOWN HALL MEETING***

New York, NY -- Ahead of tonight's Community Board 3's Town Hall Meeting on Seward Park Urban Renewal Development Project, Council Members Margaret Chin, District-1, and Rosie Mendez, District-2, issued the following joint statement:

"First, we would like to thank Community Board 3 for the meticulous work they have done over the past year in setting forth guidelines for the development of the Seward Park Urban Renewal (SPURA) site. This discussion is nearly fifty years in the making. As staunch supporters of the Lower East Side, we understand the unique character and history of this community.

As your City Council representatives, it is our job to ensure that development on the SPURA site is to the community's benefit, not detriment. The development of the SPURA site is an opportunity to enhance our community with new amenities, affordable housing, and space for neighborhood businesses to grow. Our goal is for development to follow the urban design and planning guidelines crafted by the community board as closely as possible.

We understand that concerns have been raised over the plan thus far, including around issues of permanent affordability, big-box stores, and other more specific issues. It is imperative that the residents of the Lower East Side continue to vocalize and advocate for the needs of their community. As the ULURP process moves forward, your voices will be our guide. We thank you for your continued support and commitment to the Lower East Side."

*Tonight's Town Hall official marks the start of the ULURP "clock". Community Board 3 will hold meetings and hearings with regards to this proposal, with a formal vote expected by the end of May. The proposal will then move to the Manhattan Borough President's office. The Borough President will have one month to consider the plan and make a recommendation. As per ULURP, once this recommendation is received, the City Planning Commission will make further recommendations, and possible charges, with a final vote, tentatively, in September 2012. The proposal would then move to the City Council, which could vote on the proposal as early as October 2012.*