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THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

CARLOS MENCHACA

COUNCIL MEMBER
38th DISTRICT, BROOKLYN

CHAIR

IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE

COMMITTEES

COURTS AND LEGAL SERVICES

GENERAL WELFARE

RECOVERY AND RESILIENCY

SMALL BUSINESS

STANDARDS & ETHICS

TRANSPORTATION

Attention:

Adan Palermo, Agustino Flores, Alicia Chavez, Benito Bravo, Blana Carabajo, Blandina Morales, Denise Vivar, Evelyn Garcia, Esther Sosa, Estrella Aguilar, Doña Gabina Rodriguez, Jorge Muñiz, Kay Cid, Liliana Carrillo, Matilde Pedrero, Michelle Flores Garcia, Reverend Juan Carlos Ruiz, Robert Aguilar, Rodrigo Camarena

October 3, 2019

Paisan@s:

Muchísimas gracias for your thoughtful letter. I share your pride for all the good work — IDNYC, funding for legal and adult literacy services, participatory budgeting, and more. These victories were won because of our shared commitment to protect every New Yorker, no matter their immigration status. Let's continue to fight for our most vulnerable neighbors. Thank you for always holding government accountable, including myself.

Hablemos de Industry City.

Saying “no rezoning, no conditions” means saying yes to Industry City’s current business practices. I don’t support their current approach, so I cannot in good conscience walk away from an opportunity to regulate their property. With a rezoning, we can require that Industry City is always a home for manufacturing and industrial businesses. With a rezoning, we can require that a significant amount of their space is managed by a mission-driven nonprofit and leased to manufacturers who are being pushed out of our city. With a rezoning, we can control the location and kinds of retail. With a rezoning, we can require they invest in other things the community needs, like education, tenant protections, and more. With a rezoning, we can force them to focus on climate change mitigation projects and just transition economic workforce opportunities for our neighborhood.

Without a rezoning, Industry City will continue to exacerbate gentrification, displacement, rising rents, and leave us unprepared for climate change. Worse still, we will have done nothing to ensure that over 5 million square feet of property on the waterfront is required to have

manufacturing and industrial uses. This outcome is inconsistent with the 197-a plan, and is inconsistent with our responsibility to stop these negative trends from hurting our most vulnerable neighbors.

I have invited everyone to talk with me about this issue, yet I have not had the opportunity to sit down with many of you on this topic. Let's change that and discuss this in person. My office has always been open and I am more than happy to meet with you anywhere in the neighborhood, whatever makes the most sense so that we can have an open dialogue. Nos vemos pronto.

En solidaridad,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carlos M." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carlos Menchaca
NYC Council Member | 38th District