

Christopher Marte New York City Council



Brian Kavanagh New York State Senate



Nydia M. Velázquez Congresswoman

Yuh-Line Niou New York State Assembly

February 11, 2022

Beau Perona Development Associate, CIM Group 4700 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90010

**Subject: Independent Monitor for Remediation at 265 South Street** 

Dear Mr. Perona,

We write on behalf of the residents of Lands End II, who live directly adjacent to the Voluntary Cleanup Program ("VCP") site located at 265 South Street (NYC VCP Project Number 22CVCP033M, OER Project Number 21TMP1088M). This remediation project is contracted by your offices, L+M Development Partners and CIM Group, as is required under the E-Designation of the site made effective December 5, 2018 (E-No. E-489).

As was reported in the site's Remedial Investigation Report, several harmful contaminants have been found in the soil on site, attributed to historic fill and the site's previous use as a gas station. These contaminants, including several toxic metals and significant traces of petroleum, undoubtedly pose a public health threat to the local community, and we support the Voluntary Cleanup Program being applied here.

However, we are deeply concerned with the transparency of information in this process, and must ensure that all required processes are followed, all possible steps toward mitigation of environmental threats to local residents are taken, and all reporting and information is made available to the public as the remediation process ensues.

On February 9, 2022, the Lands End II Resident Association organized a rally with our offices to amplify the issues described above. The tenants expressed concerns over possible adverse effects that they may experience due to the project. There are hundreds of residential apartments on and

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adjacent to the remediation site, making it imperative that this remediation is done as safely and transparently as possible, with close and independent oversight on behalf of the community. We have seen how similar environmental and community concerns have resulted in the retention of an independent monitor for the remediation being conducted at 250 Water Street, and want to ensure that this community has the same support and oversight.

This is why we are calling on your companies, and whoever might own the property at any point during the remediation period, to provide the funds necessary for our offices, in collaboration with the local community, to hire an independent environmental specialist to monitor the remediation work at 265 South Street as soon as possible and until the remediation is complete.

We appreciate your assistance in this effort, and look forward to a safe and transparent remediation process. If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact any of us directly or via Conor Allerton in Council Member Christopher Marte's office at callerton@council.nyc.gov.

Sincerely,

Christopher Marte

NYC Council Member

Yuh-Line Niou

New York State Assemblymember

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Brian Kavanagh

New York State Senator

Nydia M. Velázquez

Congresswoman