November 20, 2015

Carl Weisbrod, Chairman
New York City Planning Commission
22 Reade Street
New York, New York 10007

Dear Chairman Weisbrod:

Brooklyn Community Board 2 (CB2) has reviewed and made a determination on two zoning text amendments proposed by the Department of City Planning (DCP), Zoning for Quality and Affordability (N 160049 ZRY) and Mandatory Inclusionary Housing (N 160051 ZRY).

On November 10, 2015, Community Board 2 voted unanimously (37-0-0) to recommend approval of the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing text amendment.

On the same date, CB2 voted 32 in favor, six opposed, one abstention (32-6-1) to recommend disapproval of the Zoning for Quality and Affordability (ZQA) text amendment. The community board believes ZQA has many good attributes. However, the CB2 Land Use Committee and the board as a whole felt there are too many different facets to the text amendment.

More specifically, Community Board 2 was concerned that the language in ZQA was not deterministic enough, that it facilitated the possible construction of better designed and more affordable housing but did not require developers to do so.

At several times during the community board’s review, members commented that they would like to see ZQA revised, repackaged and brought back in another form. I encourage the City Planning Commission to direct DCP to take that action. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Shirley A. McRae

cc: see following page
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cc:    Hon. Eric Adams
       Brooklyn Borough President
Hon. Stephen Levin
Hon. Laurie Cumbo
       New York City Council
Winston Von Engel, Brooklyn Borough Director
Alex Sommer, Planner
       Department of City Planning

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