

□ **DISTRICT OFFICE**

67 HANSON PLACE
BROOKLYN, NY 11217
(718) 260-9191
FAX: (718) 260-9099

□ **CITY HALL OFFICE**

250 BROADWAY, ROOM 1792
NEW YORK, NY 10007
(212) 788-7081
FAX: (212) 788-7712
ljames@council.nyc.com



THE COUNCIL OF
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May 21, 2013

Mr. Joseph Palmieri
Brooklyn Borough Commissioner
New York City Department of Transportation
16 Court Street
Brooklyn, NY 11241

Dear Borough Commissioner Palmieri:

I am writing to express my continued support for the New York City Department of Transportation's (DOT's) efforts to secure funding from Round 5 of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants program for the Tillary Street Reconstruction Project.

Tillary Street is one of Brooklyn's most important roadways, and connects the neighborhoods of Brooklyn Heights, Downtown Brooklyn, and Fort Greene, while providing key access to and from the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridges and the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway. Tillary Street is also central to downtown Brooklyn's street network, and can be considered a boulevard that spans the downtown core from east to west. It functions more as a gateway, than a busy thoroughfare, for the thousands of visitors and tourists coming to Brooklyn to shop, dine, stay in hotels, and take in museum and cultural attractions.

The Tillary Street Reconstruction project will transform this roadway into a place that continues to serve the traffic and transportation needs of this busy section of Brooklyn while providing a design suitable to its location and role as a civic gateway. DOT's plans are for the reclamation of excess road space to make a street inviting to all users. When completed, the design will re-make Tillary Street into a safer and more-vibrant boulevard that will reinforce Brooklyn's increasing role as an economic engine for regional tourism, and commercial and residential development. I am eager to see this plan implemented and hope that the United States Department of Transportation funds this important local project through its TIGER grants program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Letitia James'.

Letitia James
Member of City Council

LJ:aac