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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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September 11, 2009

Honorable Christine Quinn
Speaker of the Council
224 W. 30th Street, Suite 1206
New York, New York 10001

Honorable Alan Jay Gerson
Member of the City Council
49-51 Chambers Street, Room 429
New York, New York 10007

Honorable Rosie Mendez
Member of the City Council
237 First Avenue, Suite 405
New York, NY 10003

Dear Council Speaker Quinn and Council Members Gerson and Mendez :

At its Executive Committee meeting on August 12, Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB#2, Man.) adopted the following resolution:

Resolution in support of Intro 1015 sponsored by Council Member Dan Garodnick

Whereas, Council Member Dan Garodnick has introduced, with the co-sponsorship of Council Members Gale Brewer and Jessica Lappin, City Council Intro 1015 to maintain the safety of construction sites where permitted work is temporarily suspended; and

Whereas, According to the Department of Buildings (DOB), open construction sites are a greater safety hazard to the public than active ones; and

Whereas, Stalled or abandoned construction projects can be a drag on neighboring commercial activity and property values; and

Whereas, Difficult economic conditions are contributing to stalled construction projects, as developers lose the necessary financing to complete their buildings; and

Whereas, *The New York Times* reported on July 19, 2009 that there are currently 362 stalled construction sites around the city, including 57 in Manhattan; and

Whereas, Intro 1015 would allow developers to renew work permits that would otherwise expire due to inactivity, provided that they notify the Buildings Commissioner when permitted work will be suspended and when it will be resumed, and that they submit a detailed plan for maintaining the safety of the construction site during the period when permitted work will be suspended, and that such plan be approved by the Buildings Commissioner; and

Whereas, Such safety plan shall contain proposed measures for securing the site from access by unauthorized persons, and schedules for inspecting the equipment remaining on such site, and such other provisions as the Buildings Commissioner shall require; and

Whereas, Intro 1015 would lead to increased monitoring of inactive work sites and would engage developers and the DOB in safety planning before hazards arise, rather than reacting to accidents after they have occurred; and

Whereas, Intro 1015 as proposed would not impose undue burdens on developers, but rather would create an incentive for them to secure inactive work sites by saving them from having to refile and/or update their building plans; and

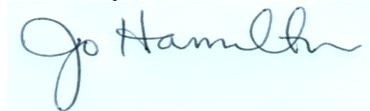
Whereas, The City has a clear interest in preventing construction accidents;

Therefore, be it resolved That CB#2, Man. supports the passage of Intro 1015, and urges its City Council members to vote in favor of such bill should it come before them for a vote.

Vote: Unanimous, with 17 Executive Committee members in favor.

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jo Hamilton". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light blue rectangular background.

Jo Hamilton, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan

JH/fa

cc: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Thomas Duane, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Scott Stringer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Daniel R. Garodnick, Council Member
Sandy Myers, CB2 liaison, Man. Borough President's office
Lolita Jackson, Manhattan Director, Commissioner, CAU