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February 11, 2015

I am glad to hear that the New York City Economic Development Corporation and Department of Housing Preservation and Development are moving forward in the process of developing the Slaughter House site at 493 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This city-owned property has the ability to provide hundreds of rent-regulated units in a rapidly gentrifying community, preventing long-time constituents of Community Board 4 from being displaced.

During a period where our city is experiencing an affordability crisis, Mayor de Blasio has stated his goal of creating 80,000 rent-regulated units. As I continue to advocate in Albany for protections for tenants in rent-regulated units and increased funding for affordable housing initiatives, my hope is that this site will support hundreds of rent-regulated apartments and will be a major step in improving the housing stock in a Manhattan neighborhood that has the space and desire to see additional development, and can be an example of community involvement in achieving Mayor de Blasio's ambitious but worthy goals.

I would like to thank Community Board 4, Councilman Corey Johnson, and Borough President Gale Brewer for their efforts in fighting for the development of affordable housing units in New York City, and I look forward to working with the Economic Development Corporation and the Department of Housing Preservation and Development in creating a site with 100% permanently affordable units.