



Council Member Daniel R. Garodnick
Council Member Rosie Mendez



Assemblymember Brian Kavanagh
State Senator Tom Duane
State Senator Liz Krueger



Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney

October 12, 2012

Via Electronic Mail and U.S. Mail

Cas Holloway
Deputy Mayor for Operations
Office of the Mayor
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Deputy Mayor Holloway:

We write to inform you of our very serious concerns regarding the proposed sanitation garage on the site of Hunter's Brookdale Campus at East 26th Street and First Avenue.

While we understand the potential efficiencies and environmental benefits of locating a sanitation garage within one of the two community districts it would serve, we question the appropriateness of locating a garage at this particular site, given the surrounding densely populated residential neighborhoods, including a waterfront community that is already substantially cut off from the rest of Manhattan, two large hospitals, the growing East River Science Park, new parkland at Asser Levy Place adjacent to the Brookdale site, and already congested streets.

To date, very little of the information that would be necessary to consider this proposal has been available, even as the City is moving forward with this project as if it were a fait accompli.

We understand that the proposal calls for a five-story building, 120-150 feet in height, to accommodate an unspecified number of collection trucks, salt spreaders, mechanical brooms and other equipment currently housed at other sites in Manhattan—all of which would be serving Community Districts 6 and 8, from East 14th Street to East 96th Streets. We further understand that no trash would be handled or transferred at this site.

In addition to confirming these and other basic parameters of the proposal, we would of course need much more information in order to assess the appropriateness of this site compared

to any alternatives, its adverse impacts, and the possibility that the many legitimate community concerns could be addressed adequately.

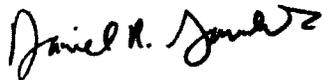
While the Department of Sanitation stressed at a Community Board 6 (CB6) meeting last week that its newest garages in Manhattan—one currently being built at Spring and West Streets and another that is operational at West 57th Street and 12th Avenue—are designed to minimize adverse impacts on the surrounding communities, those two garages are located in areas with far less traffic, many fewer residential units, and not directly adjacent to a New York State-Designated Regional Trauma Center.

Let us be absolutely clear: we will not allow the proposal to proceed if we believe it will be deleterious to our neighborhood or if the many outstanding questions cannot be answered to our satisfaction. We will not support a proposal whose feasibility is not backed up by sound analyses of vehicle and pedestrian traffic, noise, air quality, and other relevant factors—in the context of other development and changes expected in the neighborhood, including the redevelopment of the remainder of the Brookdale site.

Given the many concerns raised by residents during last week's CB6 meeting, the City owes to our community a complete accounting of the factors mentioned above, alternate garage locations, the precise rationale for siting a facility this large at this location and any options for scaling it down, other ideas for the redevelopment of the Brookdale Campus, and ways you propose to mitigate the impacts of the garage if the proposed project were to go forward.

We look forward to hearing from you.

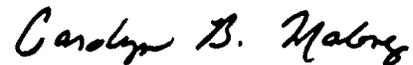
Sincerely,



Daniel R. Garodnick
City Council Member



Brian Kavanagh
State Assemblymember



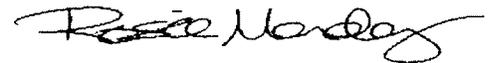
Carolyn Maloney
U.S. Congresswoman



Tom Duane
State Senator



Liz Krueger
State Senator



Rosie Mendez
City Council Member

cc: City Council Speaker Christine Quinn
Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer
Department of Sanitation Commissioner John Doherty
Community Board 6 Chair Mark Thompson