



**Department of  
Social Services**

Human Resources  
Administration

Department of  
Homeless Services

**Steven Banks**  
Commissioner

**150 Greenwich Street**  
**New York, NY 10007**

**929 221 7315**

October 08, 2021

Jeremy Warneke  
District Manager  
Community Board 11  
1741 Colden Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10462

Dear Mr. Warneke,

I am writing to provide you with notification regarding the planned opening of the following program:

**Shelter: 2028 White Plains Road, Bronx, NY**

- Capacity/population: **140 Single Adults**
- Nonprofit service provider: **Westhab**
- Anticipated opening: **Fall 2022**

In 2017, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced, “Turning the Tide on Homelessness in New York City,” his borough-by-borough plan for addressing homelessness and the unique challenges of those experiencing homelessness.

The Mayor’s plan transforms the approach for providing shelter and the shelter system that expanded in a haphazard way over the past four decades, which we inherited. “Turning the Tide” will completely end the use of all 360 substandard shelter sites, including cluster sites and commercial hotel facilities, while opening a smaller number of new traditional high-quality, borough-based shelters in each community district across the five boroughs to allow New Yorkers experiencing homelessness to be sheltered as close as possible to the anchors of their lives like schools, jobs, health care, houses of worship, and family support networks. This will reduce the number of Department of Homeless Services’ facilities by 45 percent across New York City and allow us to maintain a more equitable, borough-based system that can more effectively accommodate the individual needs of New Yorkers experiencing homelessness from all five boroughs.

In service of these needs, Westhab, a non-profit social services provider, is in the process of opening a shelter for single adults at 2028 White Plains Road. This facility will provide 140 single adults experiencing homelessness with safety, security, social services, and support in their time of need, with priority at this location offered to individuals who have roots in this community and this area of Bronx more broadly. Westhab will

provide these essential social services to help clients as they get back on their feet.

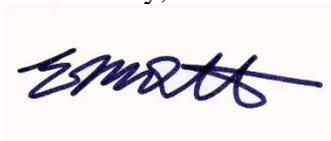
The guiding principle of the Mayor's borough-by-borough plan is community and people first. To that end, the Mayor's plan ensures that quality sites, such as 2028 White Plains Road, will open while less effective facilities, such as cluster sites and commercial hotel locations, will be phased out.

Our goal at any DSS-DHS location is to collaborate with community stakeholders to ensure that our facilities are integrated seamlessly into the community and our clients receive a warm welcome. We encourage community members to partner with us by volunteering their time and talents and/or by joining the Community Advisory Board (CAB), which are established for each new site to hold regular meetings and maintain direct lines of communication between staff and the community to address any concerns as they arise. We would greatly appreciate your recommendations for community members you believe would be essential voices for this CAB.

Westhab will reach out to you shortly to answer any outstanding questions or concerns. We look forward to further discussing this site with you and your constituents.

Thank you for your leadership and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "ERIN DRINKWATER", is placed on a light orange rectangular background.

Erin Drinkwater  
Deputy Commissioner  
Intergovernmental and Legislative Affairs