



BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 9

Antonio Reynoso
Borough President

Dante B. Arnwine
District Manager

Fred P. Baptiste
Chair

Ethan Norville
1st Vice Chair

Felice Robertson
2nd Vice Chair

Linda Watson-Lorde
Executive Secretary

Mayna Legoute
Treasurer

Nicolas Almonor
Member-at-Large

Catherine Buccello
Member-at-Large



BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 9 ON PROPOSED SITING OF A TEMPORARY SHELTER ON EMPIRE BOULEVARD

WHEREAS, per the Sec. 2800 (d)(2) of the New York City Charter, one of the functions of community boards is to "cooperate with, consult, assist and advise any public officer, agency, local administrators of agencies legislative body or the borough president with respect to any matter relating to the welfare of the district and its residents"; and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Community Board 9 (CB9) received a communication from the NYC Department of Social Services (DSS) dated April 17, 2026, notifying the Board regarding "the use of a commercial hotel in the district to be used to provide housing for individuals experiencing homelessness"; and

WHEREAS, the proposed location is the "Ramada By Wyndham Brooklyn Empire Blvd" located at 169 Empire Boulevard which is in the within the confines of the community district; and

WHEREAS, Project Renewal will serve as the nonprofit service provider for a temporary shelter for 140 single adult men and the tentative contract commencement is scheduled for Summer 2026; and

WHEREAS, CB9 recognizes the crisis of homelessness and housing affordability and the need to ensure that those experiencing homelessness are provided with the resources to stabilize their situations and create pathways to sustainability; and

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2026, CB9 convened a community Town Hall at MS 61 on 400 Empire Boulevard with participation from DSS, Project Renewal, elected officials, and community residents and organizations; and

WHEREAS, at the Town Hall, the public was advised that the "Fair Share" assessment for the project had not yet been completed as of that date; and

WHEREAS, additional concerns were noted including questions over the contract terms for the proposed siting, the proximity to other facilities in the area, the potential for oversaturation in the district, and the equitable distribution of facilities in other community districts in the borough and citywide; and

WHEREAS, the CB9 District Office has received previous complaints from residents of the community district regarding trespassing, public urination and other quality of life issues; and



BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD 9

WHEREAS, there has been no coordinated meeting of stakeholders, agencies, and residents to discuss issues prior to the proposed opening; and

WHEREAS, there is current and potential litigation regarding the closures of the Manhattan facilities which may affect the timing/need for the opening of the proposed site.

THEREFORE, it is RESOLVED, the Brooklyn Community Board 9 recommends to the NYC Department of Social Services, the Mayor's Office, and the City Council to postpone the proposed opening of the temporary shelter to allow for sufficient stakeholder engagement to ensure that the siting is appropriate and that any adverse impacts to the community are fully addressed and minimized; and

It is RESOLVED, the board demands that Dept. of Social Services, Dept. of Homeless Services, and the Human Resources Administration notify the community board and other stakeholders within the appropriate timeframe and with a full review, as required by law, regardless of whether there is an active emergency order or declaration; and

It is RESOLVED, the appropriate agencies complete and make public the Fair Share analyses for the site, the district, and the borough to ensure the equitable distribution of facilities in Brooklyn and citywide; and

It is ALSO RESOLVED, that DSS make public the contract information and terms as requested at the Town Hall

ADOPTED: May 20, 2026