

October 4, 2023

Commissioner Dan Garodnick  
City Planning Commission Chair and Department of City Planning Director  
New York City Department of City Planning  
120 Broadway, 3rd Floor  
New York, NY 10271

Dear Commissioner Garodnick,

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the Department of City Planning's proposed City of Yes for Economic Opportunity. The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce is a borough-wide membership and economic development organization dedicated to helping businesses through four channels -- promotion, support, advocacy, and convening. The Brooklyn Chamber and its affiliate organizations, the Brooklyn Alliance, and Brooklyn Alliance Capital, provide direct business services, technical assistance, and support programs to help Brooklyn businesses grow.

NYC needs modern zoning regulations that reflect our city's needs. Our commercial corridors are the lifeblood of our communities, and this proposal will not only help to reduce retail vacancies but will ensure a wider range of businesses and support job growth, which is vital for the city's economic recovery.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of flexibility in our zoning regulations. Businesses small and large are reevaluating how they use space, where to locate, and how they function in the face of changing consumer preferences and economic conditions. By allowing businesses that cater to the specific demands of the community, zoning for economic opportunity will be promoting a more community-centric approach to zoning.

Thank you for your consideration of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce's support and please let me know if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



Randy Peers  
President and CEO