



Hudson Square
Business Improvement
District

October 13, 2023

Chair Dan Garodnick
City Planning Commission
120 Broadway, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10271

Dear Chair Garodnick,

The Hudson Square Business Improvement District strongly supports the Department of City Planning’s proposed City of Yes for Economic Opportunity zoning amendment to modernize the city’s zoning rules to support small business, create thriving commercial corridors and bolster the City’s economic recovery.

Since 2009, the Hudson Square BID has overseen the transformation of Manhattan’s former Printing District into a thriving creative hub. This transformation has been aided by a series of rezonings that have added flexibility to our regulations, but there is still more that can be done. The current regulations can be particularly confusing for small businesses and innovative entrepreneurs trying expand in New York City. The proposed Economic Opportunity zoning text amendment will update regulations and provide clear and sensible rules that allow businesses necessary flexibility.

In Hudson Square we’ve focused on building vibrant and thriving commercial corridors through innovative streetscape improvements. Our work will be enhanced by the clear design regulations for commercial ground floors in the text amendment. These design regulations will foster active and attractive retail streets and help reduce vacancies.

The proposed Economic Opportunity zoning text amendment will allow more businesses to locate near their customers, support the growth of industries such as life sciences, foster vibrant neighborhoods, and give businesses the predictability essential to planning. These proposals will help ensure New York City will continue to be competitive for investment and innovation in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Samara Karasyk
President + CEO

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Samara Karasyk
President + CEO

180 Varick Street
Suite 422, New York
NY 10014
T 212.463.9160
F 212.463.9165
W HudsonSquareBID.com