



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT

October 3, 2023

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

Dear Chair Garodnick,

The Mayor's Office of Media & Entertainment supports film and television production in New York City by streamlining the permitting process for on-location shoots and advocating for the construction of soundstages in the five boroughs. Additionally, MOME is focused on expanding workforce training programs to increase access to opportunities in the industry for New Yorkers.

We are writing to express our strong support for the *City of Yes for Economic Opportunity*. This common-sense proposal would change zoning citywide to support new and growing small businesses by making it easier to operate and grow a business in New York City, while also addressing zoning barriers that are preventing growth in industries such as film production that want to invest in New York City.

The local film and television industry, which employs 185,000 total jobs in the city and generates \$18 billion in total wages, relies on an ecosystem that includes soundstages. Zoning changes that allow for the development of soundstages in commercial areas of the city would reduce production's footprint and alleviate the stress of filming in residential areas, as well as directly increase job opportunities. MOME is particularly supportive of the proposal creating a process to allow for relief from onerous yard and setback requirements. These rules have long prevented the design of efficient, contemporary soundstages, limiting options for new soundstages and more NYC-based productions.

We look forward to working with our city agency partners on the successful implementation of this important and timely initiative.

Sincerely,

Kwame Amoaku
Deputy Commissioner of Film
Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment