

October 2, 2023

Dear Chair Garodnick,

I am writing to express my strong support for the City of Yes for Economic Opportunity. This zoning text amendment is one of the key initiatives recommended by the “New” New York Panel, a group of 59 civic leaders and industry experts convened by Governor Hochul and Mayor Adams to develop an action plan for the equitable recovery of the city.

Businesses need a clear and sensible zoning framework that gives them the flexibility to adapt and grow – especially as our city recovers from COVID-19. The City of Yes for Economic Opportunity would remove outdated limitations and ensure that commercial corridors can remain lively places that help sustain our city.

This proposed zoning text amendment sends a clear message that our city is committed to common-sense yet long overdue updates that support entrepreneurs seeking to start businesses, local stores seeking to expand, and developers who would like to rent their spaces but are hampered by these outdated, arcane, unnecessary, or confusing restrictions. The City of Yes for Economic Opportunity presents a unique chance to enhance our city's competitiveness and prosperity.

It is a credit to you and your team that the city is advancing this measure, working collaboratively with a range of stakeholders in communities across all five boroughs. Together, we can pave the way for a prosperous future for all New York City residents and businesses.

Sincerely,



**B.J. Jones**  
**Executive Director**  
“New” New York  
NYC Office of the Mayor